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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 27, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF WENDY SALBERG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of one of my district staff members, Wendy Salberg, as she marks 10 years serving in my office and 15 years serving the people of Illinois.

Wendy began her work as a congressional staffer in the office of Republican Congresswoman Judy Biggert, who for many years represented the old 13th District of Illinois.

In 2012, after I was fortunate to win the election to represent the newly created 11th Congressional District, which incorporated many of the areas of the old 13th District, it soon became clear that we needed to keep Wendy Salberg on the job.

Wendy has dedicated herself to serving constituents, no matter what their background, helping them navigate the world of the Federal agencies. Wendy quickly earned a reputation throughout the Illinois congressional delegation as being one of the best advocates for people with immigration and international travel issues, from simple passport applications to complicated citizenship cases.

I was fortunate that Wendy agreed to stay on and manage immigration casework for my office, and countless constituents who have worked with her over the past 10 years would undoubtedly agree. I cannot tell you how many people have reached out to me over the years or come to me at events I have attended to tell me how grateful they were for the work that Wendy put into their cases.

Beyond her day-to-day work, Wendy's value to our office cannot be understated. No matter what she is doing, she will drop everything to help her coworkers with whatever they need, whether it be advice, a good laugh, or just an ear to listen. Day in and day out, she is a warm, welcoming presence who truly embodies our mission to serve the people of Illinois and to serve those around her.

I could not be prouder to have her on my staff, and her former boss, Representative Judy Biggert, agrees. In joining me in celebrating Wendy's service to the people of Illinois, she wrote, "Helping constituents navigate their way through layers of government bureaucracy is seldom easy, but no bureaucratic barrier was ever a serious match for Wendy's tenacity and inventiveness. When she is on your case, it is

like a dog with a bone—dedicated, persistent, and completely involved. If there is a way to solve your problem, Wendy will find it."

All of us who know her know that these words could not be more true.

It is my distinct honor to recognize the service of Wendy Salberg on behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District and the old 13th District of Illinois.

SAVING LIVES WITH CPR AND AUTOMATIC DEFIBRILLATORS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is estimated that more than 100,000 additional lives could be saved each year if CPR was initiated on time. We saw firsthand that CPR saved the life of Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin, who was resuscitated after collapsing during a game in Cincinnati this year on January 2.

Sadly, more than 7,000 young people are stricken by sudden cardiac arrest like the one that was suffered by Damar Hamlin, and it is currently the leading cause of death for student athletes. That is why it is so critical that teachers, coaches, and all trainers become proficient on how to perform CPR and how to use automatic defibrillators.

By completing CPR training and by placing automatic defibrillators within reach at athletic venues, we can help to restart hearts, save lives, and protect our student athletes.

RESTORING OUR NATION TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, as Americans look to return to energy dominance, it has become clear that we urgently need a change in

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H1441

our energy policy by reforming the permitting process, by boosting the production of critical minerals, and by reversing President Biden's antienergy policies that have made our country less secure.

It is time to pass H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, and increase domestic energy production to restore our Nation to the energy independence that we enjoyed before President Biden took office.

H.R. 1 will stop Biden's \$6 billion natural gas tax. It will require the Department of the Interior to resume lease sales on Federal lands. H.R. 1 will enhance our ability to develop critical energy resources.

Unfortunately, Pennsylvania families are hurting because of the restrictive energy policies enacted by far-left liberals under the guise of green energy. Now is the time to embrace the critical resources like oil, natural gas, and Marcellus shale that are underneath the feet of my constituents in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District. It is time to pass H.R. 1 and get back to working for the American people.

HONORING GWEN DOWDY-RODGERS, VANESSA PEREZ, AND PAULA GRANADO FLORES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AGUILAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three phenomenal women in my district for Women's History Month. These women were nominated by their peers and local elected officials for their incredible dedication to supporting the Inland Empire.

The first woman I recognize is Dr. Gwen Dowdy-Rodgers. Dr. Dowdy-Rodgers is the first Black woman to serve on the San Bernardino County Board of Education. She was born and raised in San Bernardino, and first became involved in the school system as a parent advocate.

She is a fierce advocate for mental health in schools, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic. She believes that mental health issues need to be a priority in schools so students can stay happy and healthy in their learning environment.

Besides serving with distinction on the Board of Education, she serves as the president of the Arrowhead United Way board of directors, co-chair of the San Bernardino County Gangs and Drugs Task Force, and a member of the San Bernardino City Police Department African American Advisory Committee.

My community is lucky to have Dr. Dowdy-Rodgers, a committed public servant dedicated to helping our students and hearing the concerns of parents.

The second woman I recognize is Ms. Vanessa Perez. Vanessa is executive director of the Time for Change Foundation. She is an active volunteer in our

community through her work and her involvement in her church, The Way World Outreach.

Through her work at Time for Change, Vanessa is living out a passion of empowering women to use their voice to create change. In 2014, she completed the Women's Foundation of California's Solis Policy Institute, which provided her with the skills necessary to navigate the California legislative process and influence decision-makers to create policies that improved the quality of life of San Bernardino residents and all Californians.

Madam Speaker, the third woman I recognize is Ms. Paula Granado Flores. She is a long-term volunteer and co-chair of ACS Colton Relay for Life and a frequent volunteer in several local churches, Seeds For Hope, and the American Legion. Ms. Flores has dedicated her free time for decades to help the residents of San Bernardino County.

These women are changing my community for the better every day, and I am proud to be their Representative here in Congress. They have made a lasting impact in our region and deserve to be recognized for the extraordinary work that they have done to further our community.

As we round out Women's History Month, I thank them for their service to our region, to the Inland Empire, and to the State of California.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO LOWELL DIBBLE AND MAX WILSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two World War II veterans who recently celebrated their 100th and 101st birthdays.

Lowell Dibble of Iowa City, Iowa, celebrated his 101st birthday on St. Patrick's Day. Mr. Dibble served as a radio operator for the Merchant Marines during the Second World War, using Morse code and other communications to receive and record time signals, weather reports, and other information important to the smooth operation of their vessels.

Mr. Dibble starts each day with a workout and still talks to his friends in Morse code every night. He attributes his longevity to his positive attitude, his faith, and keeping busy. We can all learn a valuable lesson from Mr. Dibble, who should be an inspiration for people of all ages who struggle to find motivation in their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I also recognize Max Wilson from Maquoketa, Iowa, who celebrated his 100th birthday last month.

Mr. Wilson was drafted in 1941 and served as a bombardier during the Second World War, flying 43 missions in a B-17 in five different countries. As bombardier, he was responsible for

landing more than 240,000 tons of bombs on target during critical missions throughout the war.

Mr. Wilson is a humble man who doesn't see himself as a hero, though he certainly is deserving of recognition. On his birthday, he received a special gift from the University of Dubuque's Jet Center—a private flight around Dubuque and down to his hometown of Maquoketa.

Mr. Dibble and Mr. Wilson are two heroes from the Greatest Generation, and I am honored to recognize them both on the House floor. I hope each enjoyed a wonderful and memorable birthday.

CHINA IS OUR GREATEST FOREIGN THREAT

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss China's growing role in international relations and its impact on American national security.

In just the last few weeks, China has brokered a peace deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia and re-established diplomatic relations with Honduras following its break with Taiwan. Both negotiations are worrisome as Iran continues to target and kill Americans in Syria and China edges closer to invading Taiwan. Also, the Chinese Communist Party is fully supporting Russia in its unprecedented and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

China's growing influence across Latin America is concerning, particularly as these relationships continue to appear lopsided. Nations are receiving investments from the Chinese, but in return are left dependent on the Chinese Communist Party.

The Middle East is especially concerning, though. For decades, the United States has brokered peace negotiations in the region or, at the very least, been in the room as these deals have been agreed upon.

Between Iran and Saudi Arabia, however, the United States was left out. The implications of this decision are profound, particularly as Iran continues to sponsor terrorist attacks as it is unclear what peace was agreed to and our response was weak.

Our Nation has watched as the Chinese Communist Party has grown in power and influence, and has fallen victim to its espionage efforts whether through TikTok, Confucius Institutes, or even spy balloons.

The Chinese Communist Party's goals are clear: Infiltrate and undermine American economic and national security. As the CCP's influence continues to grow, its threat to our national security does too. We must actively seek ways to decouple our economy, end our dependence on Chinese supply chains, and bolster our national security.

China is our greatest foreign threat and it is time we begin to act accordingly.

I wish a happy birthday to Joseph and Matthew Martino of Connecticut, who are my nephews. Happy 16th birthday, Joseph and Matthew.

Congratulations to Kyle and Jill Jacobs on the birth of their daughter, Sierra Rose, on Saturday. I hope that they are able to get some sleep.

□ 1215

WORKING TOWARD A BETTER BANKING SYSTEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, we seem to have escaped the critical stage of this bank meltdown. We have not escaped without cost.

The FDIC announced today that they—and this is a vague estimate—will have to spend \$20 billion with regard to Silicon Valley Bank. That money will then be collected by fees that are on banks—basically, on depositors—in coming years.

More importantly, our economy has faced a huge shock. Business loans that would have been made were not made in the last month and probably will not be made in months to come.

The only silver lining there is the Fed was looking to slow down the economy, but this is one hell of a way to do it.

We have a fundamentally undemocratic system for regulating banks.

First, for the regional banks, the district Reserve banks, their Boards of Governors are not selected through a process of democracy. Elections are supposed to have consequences, but neither Congress nor the President has any role in selecting most of these directors. Instead, they are selected by the banks. In what way should we have governmental power vested that way?

Then, we have the Financial Accounting Standards Board, which claims not to even be part of the government and, therefore, doesn't claim to be responsible to the voters of this country. Yet, it collects taxes and writes, in effect, accounting laws.

Finally, we have a forum-shopping system that allows a bank to have a holding company, not have a holding company, be State regulated, be Federal regulated, and pit one regulatory group up against another.

Many countries have had, for long periods of their history, zombie banks, where the government thinks it is best to hide the losses of the bank, and somehow, the economy can go on. It works for a while some of the time.

Unfortunately, we have a similar system here. We have a system where losses on bonds are not recognized by the bank and often not even looked at adequately by the regulators, but losses on Main Street loans are recognized before they occur, even if they do not occur, on an anticipated basis.

A bank whose bonds have gone up in value can classify those bonds as available for sale and recognize a profit. If the bonds have gone down in value, they just classify them as not available

for sale but to be held to maturity, a mere bookkeeping entry, and they don't have to recognize the losses.

Our banking system has \$600 billion, at least, of unrecognized losses where we are hiding the losses in the footnotes. Our regulators don't regularly look at this.

We have had stress tests where they looked for a number of stresses, but not the stress that interest rates will go up and bonds will go down in market value. That is like having a stress test on a building where you test it for a flood and don't bother to test it for an earthquake.

We need stress tests that look at the most obvious stress that banks will always have. Interest rates can go up; interest rates can go down. Regulators know that. They have chosen to hide it from themselves.

The FDIC insures deposits only up to \$250,000. That is a major increase from where it was 15 years ago. We might want to go higher, but if we do, we should limit that additional insurance to non-interest-bearing accounts.

When businesses are using the bank as a payment system, as a utility, when businesses instead want to invest \$1 million, \$2 million, \$3 million of their money, they have a responsibility for finding an investment vehicle, whether it be a bank or otherwise, that is sound.

We have to prohibit the exclusive banking relationships where companies were told by Silicon Valley Bank: "You must have all your spare cash in our bank, which means we, the bank, take a risk on you, but you have to bet your whole company that our bank will survive." We need companies to diversify their deposits.

Finally, cryptocurrency should not be listed on the balance sheets of any bank. It is simply way too speculative.

I look forward to working for a better banking system. My fear is that, like the losses on bonds, we will simply put under the carpet the losses and problems, go on saying we will patch it together, and not tell the American people that there are fundamental problems that should be addressed.

CALLING ATTENTION TO HIGHER EDUCATION PROBLEMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we have many problems today in higher education, one of which is the excessive kind of anti-God, liberal approach, leftwing approach, I will say, of the faculty in general, which, of course, flops over to the students. Some of it should be addressed, and we should try to get back to some sort of balance in higher education.

America is very divided today: about 50 percent more conservative and about 50 percent more leftwing, more progressive. Hypothetically, the faculty at

America's colleges and universities ought to reflect that.

Instead, a recent trend is going to push things in the exact opposite direction, and that is the movement of colleges and universities, including the colleges and universities with the highest reputations in the country, to get rid of standardized tests.

What result will getting rid of standardized tests have on the type of people who are admitted to all of our colleges and universities, but particularly our elite colleges and universities? Right now, a standardized test is something you either do well on or don't. A lot of people are nervous about standardized tests, but in any event, some determination has to be made on how some people get into college and some people don't.

As we get rid of standardized tests, we are going to put more weight on things like an essay students submit to try to get into college. We are going to put more weight on extracurriculars or nonprofits that students work for. What effect is that going to have on the type of students who are admitted?

Given that these are subjective determinations, we know very well the professors or other people on the admissions committees will look at where you are doing your extracurriculars. Are you active in an evangelical church? Are you active in a conservative political party? Or are you active in more left-leaning nonprofit organizations?

They will look at your essay, which is purely a subjective determination. The danger is that these leftwing faculty members will say: Oh, this person doesn't look like he will fit in here. This person is a conservative. This person is a Christian.

As a result, this ought to be of great alarm to everyone. Not to mention, the scores you get on these tests do a good job of predicting how well you will do in school. As a result, it is going to lower the quality of students.

Already you hear from employers that college graduates are not as qualified, that their work ethic isn't as good as new employees they had 20 years ago. What will be the effect of removing these standards?

Furthermore, it is going to have a negative impact, I think, on people who come from backgrounds without as much money. You only have so much time before you go to college to put together your resume. If you need more money, if you have to work, say, 30 hours a week at the local McDonald's, you don't have time to put together the long resume that looks so good at college admissions.

Today or in the past, with standardized tests, the kid who has to work 30 hours a week at McDonald's and doesn't have time for a lot of do-gooder causes can do a great job on his standardized test and still get in. This penalizes the person who has to do a lot of work on the outside and rewards the student who doesn't have to make any money on the side in high school.

This is certainly not something that we want, but it will unquestionably be the result of getting rid of standardized tests.

It will also increase the importance of, perhaps, high school grade points. One more time, a grade point is, to a certain extent, subjective, as well. We hear already in high school, but all the time in college—we will come back to that in a second. Already in high school, students have to lie a little bit on the essay because the teachers are very liberal.

I had a teacher who taught at a high school in Wisconsin, a very sizable high school, and she said she was the only Republican in the whole faculty of that high school. What does that say about your grade point coming out of high school? I don't know if I believe her—it was a very large high school—but she felt she was the only one.

In other words, what you are going to wind up with, once these subjective determinations are made, is you are going to have the same liberal bias that happens once you get into college.

I talked to an English professor at the University of Wisconsin.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GROTHMAN. In any event, I strongly encourage this institution—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LANGWORTHY) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and all-loving God, we approach Your throne this day with prayers on behalf of those who perished in the recent tornadoes across the Southern United States and for the survivors who now find themselves searching for scraps of their livelihood amidst the devastation.

We pray especially for the men, women, and children of Rolling Fork and other towns like it as they face the monumental task of combing through the debris of their lives, establishing safe living conditions amidst downed power lines and fouled water sources, all the while grieving the inconceivable loss of loved ones and neighbors. Despite our own inability to grasp the

enormity of this tragedy, hear our prayers, as inadequate as they may seem to be in the face of this catastrophe.

You, O Lord, are our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble. Grant, then, all who are enduring heartbreak and loss the courage to meet with strength the uncertainty ahead of them. Remind them, though the Earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult, You, O God, are in the midst of their city.

Lord of hosts, remain with Rolling Fork, for we believe You are the refuge for all who are lost, afraid, and anguished this day.

Hear our prayers as we offer them in Your most powerful name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

AMERICAN FAMILIES AT RISK

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, Secretary of State Blinken admitted at the Foreign Affairs Committee hearing that 175 Americans are still in the terrorist safe haven of Afghanistan, despite the Biden promise of leaving no Americans behind.

President Donald Trump was correct; the surrender was the greatest foreign policy humiliation in U.S. history.

Biden refuses to release letters he claimed, on August 26, 2021, that blamed military leaders for his disastrous decision.

A March 6 Washington Post editorial said the Biden administration will be judged by victory in Ukraine, liberating all of Ukraine from war criminal Putin. Democracies with rule of law must prevail over authoritarians by rule of gun with the Ukraine invasion, Taiwan threats, and nuclear capabilities against Israel and America.

Sadly, with an open southern border with nearly 200 names of known terror-

ists crossing under Biden, American families have never been at greater risk of mass murder.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years from the global war on terrorism as it continues moving from Afghanistan's safe haven to America.

Our prayers for the families in Nashville.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7455(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy:

Mr. WOMACK, Arkansas

Mr. DAVIDSON, Ohio

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 1903(b), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy:

Mr. RUTHERFORD, Florida

Mrs. MCCLAIN, Michigan

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO JAPAN-UNITED STATES FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2903, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission:

Mr. SMITH, Nebraska

Mr. TAKANO, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 2 of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission:

Mr. WITTMAN, Virginia

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. EDWARDS) at 5 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SERVICE AND THE NATIONAL HONOR GUARD AND PIPE BAND EXHIBITION

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 15) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 15

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, the 42d Annual National Peace Officers Memorial Service (in this resolution referred to as the “Memorial Service”), on the Capitol Grounds, in order to honor the law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty during 2022.

(b) DATE OF MEMORIAL SERVICE.—The Memorial Service shall be held on May 15, 2023, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate, with preparation for the event to begin on May 10, 2023, and takedown completed on May 16, 2023.

SEC. 2. USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL HONOR GUARD AND PIPE BAND EXHIBITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition (in this resolution referred to as the “Exhibition”), on the Capitol Grounds, in order to allow law enforcement representatives to exhibit their ability to demonstrate Honor Guard programs and provide for a bagpipe exhibition.

(b) DATE OF EXHIBITION.—The Exhibition shall be held on May 14, 2023, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of

Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

(1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and

(2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsors of the Memorial Service and Exhibition shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the events.

SEC. 4. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsors referred to in section 3(b) are authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment, as may be required for the Memorial Service and Exhibition.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the events.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) and the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 15.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have introduced this resolution along with Ranking Member TITUS of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

This resolution authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 42nd Annual National Peace Officers Memorial Event to honor law enforcement officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

These men and women put on their uniforms each day to serve and protect our communities and our families.

Violent crime continues to be a daily tragedy in this country, and we have seen it, as a matter of fact, again today.

It is critical that we recognize that police officers are doing an extremely difficult and dangerous job day in, day out, 365 days a year, to keep Americans safe.

To all the law enforcement officers who put on the badge each day, who wear it with honor and distinction, we say thank you, and we support you.

This resolution is just one small way we can demonstrate our support for these officers and their families and honor the men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty in 2022, including, unfortunately, 19 individuals from my home State of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this resolution and reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise in support of H. Con. Res. 15, which authorizes the use of the Capitol Grounds for the 42nd Annual National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

As the ranking member of the subcommittee that oversees our public buildings, it is my honor to carry this resolution alongside subcommittee chair, Mr. PERRY.

The memorial service, which will be held on May 15, will be coordinated with the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police, and it will honor 557 officers whose names will be added to the memorial, including 9 from Nevada.

The memorial will also continue to recognize the sacrifice of law enforcement during the pandemic as they served among the millions of frontline and essential workers who day in and day out risked their lives and their families' safety to keep us safe while we slowed the spread of that deadly virus.

We cannot bring back those that we have lost, but we can honor the sacrifice they made to keep ourselves, our loved ones, and our communities safe.

I note the officers from southern Nevada who made the ultimate sacrifice: Bailiff Gerald “Bear” Smith served in the Pahrump Justice Court since 2009, and he is remembered for his constant compassion and going out of his way to do anything he could to help the people of Pahrump.

Bailiff Smith passed away on January 18, 2021, from complications as a result of contracting COVID in the line of duty.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Officer Closi, Philip Closi, who served in the department for 21 years, including working closely with local students as part of the DARE program. He previously served as a firefighter and paramedic.

Officer Closi passed away on August 11, 2021, from complications, again, as a result of contracting COVID in the line of duty.

Sergeant Douglas King served 17 years in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and prior to his death was set to receive the department's Medal of Honor for placing himself in danger to save the life of a domestic violence victim.

On August 23, 2021, Sergeant King passed away from complications as a result of contracting COVID in the line of duty.

Senior Federal Air Marshal Shawn Hennessee was a member of the Federal

Air Marshal Service for nearly 19 years and spent an additional 13 years serving in the U.S. Air Force.

Based out of the Las Vegas field office, he dedicated his life to protecting passengers and crew from threats to their safety in the skies.

Federal Air Marshal Hennessee passed away on August 26, 2021, from complications as a result of contracting COVID in the line of duty.

Police Officer Edward Contreras served the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department for over 15 years, in addition to his service in the U.S. Marine Corps where he was deployed to both Somalia and Iraq.

Officer Contreras passed away on September 28, 2021, from complications as a result of contracting COVID in the line of duty.

Special U.S. Deputy Marshal Jose Gomez was a United States Marine Corps Reserve veteran who served with the United States Marshals Service for 22 years.

While serving at the Lloyd D. George Courthouse in Las Vegas, Special Deputy Gomez contracted COVID-19 in the line of duty and passed away on February 6, 2022.

This was a cruel disease that took away many of our very brave frontline law enforcement and emergency responders.

Detective Justin Terry humbly served in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department for nearly 21 years and was committed to protecting children in the community from sexual assault and abuse.

A sworn task force officer with the U.S. Marshals Office, Detective Terry passed away on June 10, 2022, after a tragic accident in the northwest valley.

Police Officer Truong Thai was proud to be a Vietnamese-American officer in Las Vegas. A 23-year veteran of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, he dedicated his time on patrol and served in the financial crimes unit and mentored countless new recruits.

On October 13, 2022, Officer Thai was shot and killed while responding to a domestic disturbance call.

My condolences are with the families and loved ones of these brave public servants and all of those who are mourning the loss of the 557 courageous men and women whose duty and sacrifice will be commemorated at this year's memorial.

I urge the House to join me in supporting this tribute to our fallen law officers. It is the least that we can do.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by saying that this is a very fitting thing for us to do here on the Capitol Grounds, and I hope that all our colleagues will join Mr. PERRY and me in voting in favor of this memorial service.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I reiterate not only my support but my thanks to

the gentlewoman from Nevada for her support of H. Con. Res. 15. And most importantly, for my thanks and support for the men and women who put their lives on the line each day to protect our communities and families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 15.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STOP FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING ACT OF 2023

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1154) to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1154

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Stop Forced Organ Harvesting Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States—

(1) to combat international trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs;

(2) to promote the establishment of voluntary organ donation systems with effective enforcement mechanisms in bilateral diplomatic meetings and in international health forums;

(3) to promote the dignity and security of human life in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted on December 10, 1948; and

(4) to hold accountable persons implicated, including members of the Chinese Communist Party, in forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING.—The term "forced organ harvesting" means the removal of one or more organs from a person by means of coercion, abduction, deception, fraud, or abuse of power or a position of vulnerability.

(3) ORGAN.—The term "organ" has the meaning given the term "human organ" in section 301(c)(1) of the National Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C. 274e(c)(1)).

(4) TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS.—The term "traf-

ficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs" means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of a person for the purpose of removing one or more of such person's organs, by means of—

(A) coercion;

(B) abduction;

(C) deception;

(D) fraud;

(E) abuse of power or a position of vulnerability; or

(F) transfer of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over a person described in the matter preceding subparagraph (A).

SEC. 4. AUTHORITY TO DENY OR REVOKE PASSPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State may refuse to issue a passport to any individual who has been convicted of an offense under section 301 of the National Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C. 274e) and is subject to imprisonment or parole or other supervised release as the result of such conviction if such individual, in the commission of such an offense, used a passport or crossed an international border.

(b) REVOCATION.—The Secretary of State may revoke a passport previously issued to any individual described in subsection (a).

SEC. 5. REPORTS ON FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 116 (22 U.S.C. 2151n), by adding at the end the following:

"(h) FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required by subsection (d) shall include an assessment of forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs in each foreign country.

"(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

"(A) FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING.—The term 'forced organ harvesting' means the removal of one or more organs from a person by means of coercion, abduction, deception, fraud, or abuse of power or a position of vulnerability.

"(B) ORGAN.—The term 'organ' has the meaning given the term 'human organ' in section 301(c)(1) of the National Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C. 274e(c)(1)).

"(C) TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS.—The term 'trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs' means the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of a person for the purpose of removing one or more of such person's organs, by means of—

"(i) coercion;

"(ii) abduction;

"(iii) deception;

"(iv) fraud;

"(v) abuse of power or a position of vulnerability; or

"(vi) transfer of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over a person described in the matter preceding clause (i)."; and

(2) in section 502B (22 U.S.C. 2304)—

(A) by redesignating the second subsection (i) (relating to child marriage status) as subsection (j); and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(k) FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required by subsection (b) shall include an assessment of forced organ harvesting and trafficking in

persons for purposes of the removal of organs in each foreign country.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the terms ‘forced organ harvesting’, ‘organ’, and ‘trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs’ have the meanings given those terms in section 116(h)(2).”

SEC. 6. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING OR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOR PURPOSES OF THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS.

(a) LIST REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a list of each person that the President determines funds, sponsors, or otherwise facilitates forced organ harvesting or trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs.

(b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—The President shall impose the following sanctions with respect to a person on the list required by subsection (a):

(1) PROPERTY BLOCKING.—The President shall exercise all of the powers granted by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (except that the requirements of section 202 of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of the person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) ALIENS INADMISSIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—In the case of an individual, that individual is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

(ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The visa or other entry documentation of the individual shall be revoked, regardless of when such visa or other entry documentation is or was issued.

(ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revocation under clause (i) shall—

(I) take effect immediately; and

(II) automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the individual's possession.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions under subsection (b)(1) shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(B) GOOD DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term “good” means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

(2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.—Subsection (b)(2) shall not apply to the admission of an individual if the admission of the individual is necessary to comply with United States obligations under the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, under the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967, or under other applicable international agreements or treaties.

(3) EXCEPTION RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Sanctions under this section may not be imposed with respect to transactions or the facilitation of transactions for—

(A) the sale of agricultural commodities, food, or medicine;

(B) the provision of vital humanitarian assistance;

(C) financial transactions relating to vital humanitarian assistance or for vital humanitarian purposes; or

(D) transporting goods or services that are necessary to carry out operations relating to vital humanitarian assistance.

(4) WAIVER.—The President may, on a case-by-case basis and for periods not to exceed 180 days each, waive the application of sanctions or restrictions imposed with respect to a person under this section if the President certifies to the appropriate committees of Congress not later than 15 days before such waiver is to take effect that the waiver is vital to the national security interests of the United States.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this section.

(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out this section shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “person”—

(A) means an individual or entity; and

(B) includes a non-state actor (as such term is defined in Public Law 114-281); and

(2) the term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, every year under General Secretary Xi Jinping and his Chinese Communist Party, between 60,000 to 100,000 young victims, average age 28, are murdered in cold blood to steal their organs.

These crimes against humanity are unimaginably cruel. Ethnic groups tar-

geted for this mass harvesting include Uyghurs who suffer from Xi Jinping's ongoing genocide and the Falun Gong, whose peaceful meditation and exercise practices and exceptional good health make their organs highly desirable.

The Chinese Communist Party has declared them to be an evil cult fit for butchering.

Mr. Speaker, in May of last year, I chaired an absolutely chilling congressional hearing at the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission titled “Forced Organ Harvesting in China: Examining the Evidence.”

The China Tribunal, chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice—and this is the man who prosecuted Slobodan Milosevic at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, a tribunal that I worked very hard on and was very supportive of, as were other Members of this body—conducted the world's first independent legal analysis of forced organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience in China.

Sir Geoffrey Nice testified at my hearing and said, “Forced organ harvesting has been committed for years throughout China on a significant scale,” and he said that “. . . Falun Gong practitioners have been one—and probably the main—source of organ supply.”

He said the Falun Gong and the Uyghurs in the PRC each qualify as a “group” for purposes of the crime of genocide.

Ethan Gutmann, Senior Research Fellow in China Studies, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, testified that the Kilgour-Matass-Gutmann report of 2016 estimated China's total transplant volume—this is forced transplantations—at 60,000 to 100,000 annually.

Mr. Gutmann also pointed out “. . . at any given time since 2017, there are approximately a million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz and Hui in the camps.” These are the concentration camps, of course, made up mostly of Muslims.

□ 1715

He said his estimate is that 25,000 to 50,000 camp detainees are being harvested every year. Again, he says 28-year-olds from the Xinjiang camps can be harvested for two or three organs each, translating into a maximum of about 150,000 organs.

Another expert witness who testified at our hearing, Matthew Robertson of the Australian National University, co-authored with Dr. Jacob Lavee an examination of Chinese medical journal articles and found that “71 papers gave explicit descriptions of surgeons appearing to violate the dead donor rule while procuring hearts from prisoners. In plain language, the papers appear to show that the donors, who were prisoners, were alive at the time of surgery and were killed by transplant surgeons in the process of heart extraction.”

Their work, published last April in a top peer-reviewed U.S. medical journal,

"The American Journal of Transplantation" provided additional evidence of the People's Republic of China's egregious practices and violation of international standards. These are, again, crimes against humanity.

Robert Destro, the former Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor testified that, "The size and scope of the organ harvesting and organ trafficking market are staggering."

Mr. Speaker, we also know through open-source Chinese language media that elderly, high-ranking Chinese Communist Party officials have received replacement organs from the very people they despise, like the Falun Gong, like the Uyghurs. There is one particular hospital, Army Hospital 301 in Beijing, that excels at this.

While this still shocks me, and I know it shocks my colleagues, I cannot say it surprises me.

Almost 25 years ago, I chaired a hearing. Doug Anderson, who is sitting right here, was a part of that hearing as the top staff on the committee. I chaired a human rights hearing with a Chinese security officer who testified that he and other security agents were executing patients with the doctors right there with ambulances ready to harvest their organs after the bullets were fired.

Indeed, at last year's hearing, we produced a doctor who testified that he had performed one such surgery on a victim—he was forced to, he claimed—a botched execution who as he began cutting discovered that the victim was in a state of shock—he wasn't dead yet—a live vivisection on a living human being. He has nightmares to this day.

To combat these heinous and inhumane practices, the Stop Forced Organ Harvesting Act of 2023, a bipartisan piece of legislation, amends the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to require reports on forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs in foreign countries, including and especially in China; and the imposition of serious sanctions on any person the President determines funds, sponsors or otherwise facilitates forced organ harvesting or trafficking for purposes of the removal of organs.

What does that mean? It means civil penalties up to \$250,000 and criminal penalties including a fine of up to \$1 million and imprisonment for not more than 20 years or both. So we are serious about sanctioning this egregious practice.

Sanctions also include blocking and prohibiting all transactions in property and interests in property and making such persons inadmissible to the United States and ineligible to receive a visa.

State-sponsored forced organ harvesting is big business for Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party and shows absolutely no signs of abating, which is why we and the rest of the

world need to step up, particularly the democracies of this world.

We must act, and we must act decisively.

I thank Chairman MCCAUL for his cosponsorship and his tremendous leadership on this bill, as well as Ranking Member MEEKS for his strong support. I also thank our Democratic cosponsor, BILL KEATING, as well as KATHY MANNING, for their strong support and cosponsorship of this legislation. I extend a very special thanks to Mary Vigil; Janice Kaguyutan, who is sitting over here on my right on the Democrat side; Piero Tozzi, who is the staff director for the China Commission of which I am the chairman; and Doug Anderson, who has done a wonderful job throughout all of this; and Mary McDermott Noonan, my chief of staff, all who have worked so diligently in such a cooperative and bipartisan way to bring this piece of legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, March 17, 2023.

Hon. JIM JORDAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN JORDAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1154, the "Stop Forced Organ Harvesting Act of 2023," so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on this bill into the Congressional Record during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, March 15, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 1154, the "Stop Forced Organ Harvesting Act of 2023." Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that forgoing further consideration of this measure does not in any way alter the Committee's jurisdiction or waive any future jurisdictional claim over these provisions or their subject matter. We also reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees in the event of a conference with the Senate involving this measure or similar legislation.

I ask that you please insert this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 1154 on the House floor. I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our committees have worked on this matter, and I look forward to working collaboratively in the future on matters of shared jurisdiction. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JIM JORDAN,
Chairman.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 1154.

This is a measure authored by Representative CHRIS SMITH, who is the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations of which I am the ranking member. He has been a long-time leader in this body on human rights challenges, and I am glad to be supporting this measure today. I look forward to continuing to work with Representative SMITH to address many important global human rights challenges in the coming months on our subcommittee.

I also thank Representative KEATING, the Democratic co-lead of this measure, for working across the aisle to refine this bill and make it bipartisan.

According to the State Department's 2022 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, there have been troubling reports regarding the PRC "forcibly harvesting organs from prisoners of conscience, including religious and spiritual adherents."

This is beyond the pale and absolutely unacceptable. It is important, therefore, that the State Department look more deeply into this issue.

H.R. 1154 shines a light on this horrible practice and calls on the State Department to make its annual reporting on the issue more robust and in depth. Not only does it call for more regular assessments of the problem, it also imposes sanctions on individuals that are involved in forced organ harvesting and trafficking.

This legislation will make sure that the United States is carefully gathering all of the facts to make an informed assessment regarding the magnitude and prevalence of this problem.

We should never look away from injustice and repression wherever it takes place. In that spirit, I support this legislation, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1154 is an important, bipartisan measure. We know that organ harvesting has been a problem in China. We also know that PRC officials in Xinjiang have collected biometric data from Uyghur and other ethnic minority detainees. Given the ongoing genocide in Xinjiang, we simply cannot take Beijing at its word

about what it is and is not doing. We need to investigate, and we need to verify.

H.R. 1154 does just that. It calls on the State Department to provide important information to Congress, to the American public, as well as to the world about the scope of organ harvesting and trafficking around the world so that we may respond appropriately.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

I thank Ms. WILD for her strong support and for her wonderful and strong remarks today in favor of this bipartisan legislation.

I do believe that we are really at a point now where if not us, who? We need to speak, and we need to speak boldly. This legislation, again, was crafted across the aisle. We have worked very closely together on it. I believe this legislation will make a huge difference.

Not so long ago I was in the intensive care unit. I am fine now, but when I was lying there, I kept thinking about this bill and some poor 28-year-old in the People's Republic of China who is not there being treated in a benign way by doctors and nurses but is being strapped down—not always anesthetized sufficiently—to steal their organs and to kill them.

It is happening—as I indicated earlier, and this is a very reliable number—between 60 to 100,000 times against 60 to 100,000 20-year-olds each and every year.

This is Nazi-like.

Xi Jinping needs to be held accountable. The fact that he and the high officials of the Chinese Communist Party are benefiting not just with unbelievable amounts of money for the Chinese Communist Party and for them personally, but also, if they need any organ, they turn to the very people that they hate, especially Falun Gong and Muslim Uyghurs, in order to procure their organs.

This must get strong support from this body, strong support from the Senate, and I believe it will be signed by the President if we can get it to his desk.

We need to make a difference.

Again, I urge Members to vote “yes,” and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1154.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PRC IS NOT A DEVELOPING COUNTRY ACT

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1107) to direct the Secretary of State to take certain actions with respect to the labeling of the People's Republic of China as a developing country, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1107

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “PRC Is Not a Developing Country Act”.

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It should be the policy of the United States—

(1) to oppose the labeling or treatment of the People's Republic of China as a developing country in any treaty or other international agreement to which the United States is a party;

(2) to oppose the labeling or treatment of the People's Republic of China as a developing country in each international organization of which the United States is a member; and

(3) to pursue the labeling or treatment of the People's Republic of China as an upper middle income country, high income country, or developed country in each international organization of which the United States is a member.

SEC. 3. REPORT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report identifying all current treaty negotiations in which—

(1) the proposed treaty develops different standards for the enforcement of the treaty based on the development status of the member states of the treaty; and

(2) the People's Republic of China is under consideration for becoming a party to the treaty.

SEC. 4. MECHANISMS FOR CHANGING THE DEVELOPMENT STATUS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In any international organization of which the United States and the People's Republic of China are both current member states, the Secretary, in coordination with the heads of other Federal agencies and departments as needed, shall pursue—

(1) changing the status of the People's Republic of China from developing country to upper middle income country, high income country, or developed country if a mechanism exists in such organization to make such a change in status;

(2) proposing the development of a mechanism described in paragraph (1) to change the status of the People's Republic of China in such organization from developing country to developed country; or

(3) regardless of efforts made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2), working to ensure that the People's Republic of China does not receive preferential treatment or assistance within the organization as a result of it having the status of a developing country.

(b) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of subsection (a) with respect to any international organization if the President notifies the appropriate committees of Congress, not later than 10 days before the date on which the waiver shall take effect, that such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of State.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), who chairs the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Indo-Pacific and is the author of this important legislation.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman CHRIS SMITH for yielding me the time.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 1107, the PRC Is Not a Developing Country Act. This is a bipartisan bill I introduced with my colleague GERRY CONNOLLY to address the People's Republic of China's exploitation of its status as a developing country in treaties and in international organizations.

The People's Republic of China is the world's second largest economy, accounting for 18.6 percent of the global economy. Their economy size is second only to the United States. The United States is treated as a developed country, and so should the PRC. The United States is also treated as a high-income country in treaties and international organizations, so China should also be treated as a developed country.

However, the PRC is still classified as a developing country, and they are using this status to game the system and hurt countries that are truly in need.

The PRC exploits their developing country status by applying for development assistance and loans from international organizations, despite spending trillions on infrastructure projects in developing countries as part of the debt trap diplomacy scheme known as the Belt and Road Initiative. In fact,

PRC's withdrawal of loans takes away from actual developing countries and helps the PRC finance its Belt and Road program.

We are long overdue to level the playing field. This legislation rights this wrong by requiring the Secretary of State to oppose the labeling or treatment of the PRC as a developing country in any international organization or treaty to which the United States is a party.

□ 1730

It also directs the Secretary to seek mechanisms in international organizations to change the status of the PRC from a developing to developed country.

We cannot let the PRC continue exploiting countries in need and take unfair advantage of international treaties and organizations. It is time that we give developing countries a better chance at participating in programs that are meant for them and not meant for the world's second-largest economy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes."

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 1107.

Mr. Speaker, the People's Republic of China, PRC, is the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases in the entire world. Yet, for too long, it has shirked its responsibility to do more to combat climate change on the world stage. The PRC does this by seeking and securing the status of a "developing country" in international treaties and organizations, despite being the world's second-largest economy.

This kind of special treatment needs to stop. China needs to pay its fair share to fight global challenges.

That is why I stand here today to support the bipartisan measure by my colleagues Representative YOUNG KIM and Representative GERRY CONNOLLY.

H.R. 1107 calls on the State Department to work diplomatically within all relevant international organizations and treaties where China is treated as a developing nation to change its status. It is time that the PRC should be ascribed the responsibilities commensurate with its global impact and power.

The bill also ensures that U.S. diplomats will work to create mechanisms to consider such a change if they do not already exist. Most importantly, it will authorize our diplomats to work to ensure that the PRC is not getting special treatment regardless of the status it has.

Right now, China gets to have its cake and eat it, too. It is bolstering its influence and presence in international organizations and treaties, all the while avoiding having to contribute its appropriate share to solving global problems.

The PRC claims it is a responsible global power. This bill aims to hold it accountable by asking it to accept greater burden-sharing for global problems. This is an important measure.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the United States and other developed nations of the world need to stop underwriting the belligerent expansion of the Chinese Communist Party's influence around the world.

Since 1978, the economy of the People's Republic of China has reportedly grown 9 percent a year on average. Today, the PRC is the world's second-largest economy and is a top goods exporter. Look at our balance of trade. Its outward direct investment exceeds that of 32 of the 36 OECD countries, and China's defense expenditures and number of satellites in space are second in the world, only behind the United States.

That is why it is ridiculous that the PRC is still considered a developing country by international financial institutions, or IFIs, and in various treaty provisions intended to benefit genuinely poor nations. That designation allows the PRC to pay less in United Nations dues and assessments; it allows them to avoid stricter requirements in certain environmental agreements; and it allows the PRC to get preferential loans from international financial institutions, which the PRC then uses to offer predatory and unfair loans to actual developing countries, countries such as Sri Lanka, Djibouti, and Uganda, which have been placed into debt bondage by the PRC, often accompanied by bribery and corruption of local officials.

This is just one way the PRC distorts the global economy through unfair trade and lending practices while hurting countries that are actually still genuinely developing.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from California, YOUNG KIM, who chairs the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific, for introducing this bill. It is smart, targeted legislation. I thank GERRY CONNOLLY for his chief cosponsorship, as well.

This legislation clearly states that the PRC is no longer a developing country and that the United States should seek to ensure that any future treaties, conventions, or organizations we are a part of do not treat the PRC as one.

The world must stop allowing the PRC to siphon benefits from other nations by taking advantage of an outdated and inaccurate developing country status.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, March 23, 2023.

Hon. JASON SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for agreeing to forgo pursuing a sequential refer-

ral of H.R. 1107, the "PRC is Not a Developing Country Act," so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor. As requested, the Committee on Ways and Means has been added as a recipient of the report required by this bill.

I agree that your forgoing action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future.

I will seek to place our letters on this bill into the Congressional Record during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, March 23, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL, I am writing with respect to H.R. 1107, the "PRC is Not a Developing Country Act." As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions on which the Committee on Ways and Means has a jurisdictional interest, I will not request a sequential referral on this measure.

The Committee on Ways and Means takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for such request.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 1107.

Sincerely,

JASON SMITH,
Chairman.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1107 is an important bipartisan measure that calls out the People's Republic of China for failing to do its part in international organizations and treaties and calls on it to do more.

At the same time, the diplomatic actions that this measure calls for highlight just how critical it is that the United States remain engaged and present in international and multilateral forums and treaties.

We can only shape global decisions for the benefit of U.S. interests and can only counter the PRC if we are in the room. We have to negotiate and engage in diplomacy to advance our interests. Otherwise, as we have seen repeatedly, when the United States is absent or silent, China immediately swoops in to drive the international policy conversation and agenda in the direction it wants.

I support this bipartisan measure because it deepens both U.S. engagement

in international treaties and organizations while trying to effectively counter the PRC's own self-interested actions in these forums.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me and support this important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I urge unanimous support by this body for this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1107, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

UNDERSEA CABLE CONTROL ACT

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1189) to require the development of a strategy to eliminate the availability to foreign adversaries of goods and technologies capable of supporting undersea cables, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1189

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Undersea Cable Control Act".

SEC. 2. STRATEGY TO ELIMINATE THE AVAILABILITY TO FOREIGN ADVERSARIES OF GOODS AND TECHNOLOGIES CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING UNDERSEA CABLES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting through the Secretary of State and in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall develop a strategy to eliminate the availability to foreign adversaries of goods and technologies capable of supporting undersea cables consistent with United States policy described in section 1752 of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4811).

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An identification of goods and technologies capable of supporting the construction, maintenance, or operation of an undersea cable project.

(2) An identification of United States and multilateral export controls and licensing policies for goods and technologies identified pursuant to paragraph (1) with respect to foreign adversaries.

(3) An identification of United States allies and partners that have a share of the global market with respect to the goods and technologies so identified, including a detailed

description of the availability of such goods and technologies without restriction in sufficient quantities and comparable in quality to those produced in the United States.

(4) A description of ongoing negotiations with other countries to achieve unified export controls and licensing policies for goods and technologies so identified to eliminate availability to foreign adversaries.

(5) An identification of all entities under the control, ownership, or influence of a foreign adversary that support the construction, operation, or maintenance of undersea cables.

(6) A description of efforts taken to promote United States leadership at international standards-setting bodies for equipment, systems, software, and virtually defined networks relevant to undersea cables, taking into account the different processes followed by such bodies.

(7) A description of the presence and activities of foreign adversaries at international standards-setting bodies relevant to undersea cables, including information on the differences in the scope and scale of the engagement of foreign adversaries at such bodies compared to engagement at such bodies by the United States and its allies and partners, and the security risks raised by the proposals of foreign adversaries at such bodies.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that contains the strategy required under subsection (a).

(2) FORM.—Each report required under this subsection shall—

(A) be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex; and

(B) be made available on a publicly accessible Federal Government website.

(d) AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall seek to—

(A) establish bilateral or plurilateral agreements with allies and partners identified pursuant to subsection (b)(3) to seek to eliminate the availability to foreign adversaries of goods and technologies identified pursuant to subsection (b)(1); and

(B) include in such agreements penalty provisions for non-compliance.

(2) BRIEFINGS.—The President shall brief the congressional committees specified in subsection (c)(1) on negotiations to establish agreements described in paragraph (1) beginning not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 180 days thereafter until each such agreement is established.

(e) ACTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall evaluate the export, reexport, and in-country transfer of the technologies identified pursuant to subsection (b)(1) for appropriate controls under the Export Administration Regulations, including by evaluating, for each technology so identified, whether to add the technology to the Commerce Control List maintained under title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) LEVELS OF CONTROL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In determining the level of control appropriate for technologies identified pursuant to subsection (b)(1), including requirements for a license or other authorization for the export, reexport, or in-country transfer of any such technology, the Secretary of Commerce (in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate) shall take into account

the potential end uses and end users of the technology.

(B) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—At a minimum, it is the policy of the United States to work with its allies and partners to control the export, reexport, or in-country transfer of technologies identified pursuant to subsection (b)(1) to or in a country subject to an embargo, including an arms embargo, imposed by the United States.

(3) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President, acting through the Secretary of Commerce, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an unclassified notification describing the results of actions taken pursuant to this subsection in the preceding period, including a description of—

(A) the individual items evaluated for controls;

(B) the rationale, including foreign availability and economic impact assessments, for adding or not adding an item to the Commerce Control List maintained under title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, pursuant to the evaluation under paragraph (1) with respect to such item; and

(C) reviews by the End-User Review Committee specified in Supplement No. 9 to part 748 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, with respect to the use of items identified pursuant to subsection (b)(1) by entities under the influence, control, or ownership of a foreign adversary.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(2) FOREIGN ADVERSARY.—The term "foreign adversary"—

(A) has the meaning given such term in section 8(c) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1607(c)); and

(B) includes the People's Republic of China.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1189, the Undersea Cable Control Act.

What is this about at a higher level?

It is about this: Don't enable our adversaries. Don't allow them to become stronger than us, or to make us reliant upon them, or to catch up to us in any way whatsoever, especially China.

How does this relate to the bill? Undersea cables, if you are not familiar, carry about 99 percent of transoceanic

digital communications—think things like voice communications, data, internet, trillions of daily international financial transactions, things that you don't want China getting ahold of. They serve as the backbone—a framework, really—for the global internet.

These cables enable consumers, businesses, governments, and the military to communicate securely with each other and to access the internet. That is pretty dagdum important.

The United States derives significant benefits from its leading position in global subsea cable networks, which carry the vast majority of voice and internet traffic between continents. However, in recent years, Chinese companies—heavily subsidized, of course, by the PRC, the Communist government—have started investing heavily in owning and supplying subsea cables.

I would say it in this way: Imagine if we allowed, during the Cold War, the Soviet Union to buy up radio component companies in the United States of America and other places. What would things have been like? What kind of danger would that have been? That is the way that we should look at this.

The U.S. has to look at the supply, the ownership, of these cables as another front in our competition with the PRC, where their aim is to supplant, like anything, the United States of America's position.

This is not just an economic issue. The Chinese will steal information. They will make it insecure. They want our transmissions. They weaponize all forms of telecommunications that they can. They weaponize every bit of social media that they can. They try to make these capabilities fit their own nefarious ends.

Do we really think for a second that they would not do the same with undersea cables?

I am not going to be fooled into thinking that. That is why I have introduced the Undersea Cable Control Act. It is a bipartisan bill that will direct the President to develop a strategy to eliminate American technologies capable of supporting undersea cables from falling into the hands of our adversaries, blocking our adversaries' abilities to develop and perfect undersea cable capabilities. It is a critical step for our security.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for listening to my opinions on this issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 1189.

The United States faces a strategic competitor in China that, as National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan has stated, "is determined to overtake U.S. technological leadership and willing to devote nearly limitless resources to that goal." This technological competition will have a tremendous impact on our national security and economic interests.

Beijing is trying to take the lead in building the world's digital infrastruc-

ture as part of its Belt and Road Initiative. Increasingly, this push includes a focus on undersea cables, which carry over 95 percent of all international internet traffic, according to a recent Reuters report.

These cables transmit mundane things like emails and Facebook postings, but they also transmit more sensitive things such as financial transactions, as well as proprietary information or government secrets.

It is in our interest and in the interest of our partners and allies that these crucial data pathways are not vulnerable to attacks and espionage, which is harder to do if they are built and operated by PRC entities.

We got an example of that last month when two communications cables that connected Taiwan to two of its islands were cut by civilian PRC vessels, disconnecting 14,000 residents from the internet.

This bipartisan measure by Representative BRIAN MAST and Representative ANDY KIM aims to put the United States in a position to reduce such risks and win the competition over who gets to develop the physical infrastructure that will drive the digital commerce of the coming decades.

□ 1745

H.R. 1189 requires the development of a strategy to eliminate the availability to foreign adversaries of goods and technologies capable of supporting undersea cables. It also calls on the Bureau of Industry and Security to apply export controls on the goods identified in the strategy and work with our partners to ensure those goods and technologies are not being exported to China.

The United States needs to be proactive in the competition with the PRC. This important bipartisan measure is an example of how we can secure American and global interests by using U.S. policy tools in an effective and timely fashion.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill. H.R. 1189 is a timely and forward-thinking bill. The United States is already engaged in a commercial competition with the PRC to win contracts to build undersea cables and create the technologies that power this vital infrastructure. It is important that the United States Government have a proactive strategy to win this critical area of competition with the PRC.

Some PRC companies involved in undersea cable development are actively engaged in helping to modernize the People's Liberation Army as part of China's civil-military fusion strategy. This raises clear national security concerns that warrant the use of export controls to ensure that American goods and technologies are not contributing to that effort. This bill will result in coordination with our partners and our allies to ensure that Beijing is not able to compromise our national security through the development of PRC-sponsored undersea cables.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me and support this important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage us to look at the world in this way: Everything with China and everything with communists is competition. It is competition against America. It is competition against our democratic values, our way of life, the way that we operate, the way that we pride ourselves on freedom. I don't kick well, but I am prepared to kick their ass in anything.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1189.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. EDWARDS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 1154; and

H.R. 1107.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

STOP FORCED ORGAN HARVESTING ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1154) to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 413, nays 2, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 163]

YEAS—413

Adams	De La Cruz	Hudson
Aderholt	Dean (PA)	Huffman
Aguilar	DeGette	Huizenga
Alford	DeLauro	Hunt
Allen	DelBene	Issa
Allred	Deluzio	Ivey
Amodei	DeSaulnier	Jackson (IL)
Armstrong	DesJarlais	Jackson (NC)
Auchincloss	Diaz-Balart	Jackson (TX)
Babin	Dingell	Jackson Lee
Bacon	Doggett	Jacobs
Baird	Donalds	James
Balderson	Duarte	Jayapal
Balint	Duncan	Jeffries
Barr	Dunn (FL)	Johnson (GA)
Barragán	Edwards	Johnson (LA)
Bean (FL)	Ellzey	Johnson (OH)
Beatty	Emmer	Johnson (SD)
Bentz	Escobar	Jordan
Bera	Eshoo	Joyce (OH)
Beyer	Españillat	Joyce (PA)
Bice	Estes	Kamllager-Dove
Biggs	Evans	Kaptur
Bilirakis	Ezell	Kean (NJ)
Bishop (GA)	Fallon	Keating
Bishop (NC)	Feenstra	Kelly (MS)
Blumenauer	Ferguson	Kelly (PA)
Blunt Rochester	Finstad	Khanna
Bonamici	Fischbach	Kiggans (VA)
Bost	Fitzgerald	Kildee
Bowman	Fitzpatrick	Kiley
Boyle (PA)	Fleischmann	Kilmer
Brecheen	Fletcher	Kim (CA)
Brown	Flood	Kim (NJ)
Brownley	Foster	Krishnamoorthi
Buck	Foushee	Kuster
Bucshon	Fox	Kustoff
Budzinski	Frankel, Lois	LaHood
Burchett	Franklin, C.	LaLota
Burgess	Scott	LaMalfa
Bush	Frost	Lamborn
Calvert	Fry	Landsman
Cammack	Fulcher	Langworthy
Caraveo	Gaetz	Larsen (WA)
Carbajal	Gallagher	Larson (CT)
Cárdenas	Gallego	Latta
Carey	Garbarino	LaTurner
Carl	Garcia (IL)	Lawler
Carson	Garcia (TX)	Lee (FL)
Carter (GA)	Garcia, Mike	Lee (NV)
Carter (LA)	Garcia, Robert	Lee (PA)
Carter (TX)	Gimenez	Leger Fernandez
Cartwright	Golden (ME)	Lesko
Casar	Gomez	Letlow
Case	Gonzales, Tony	Levin
Casten	Gonzalez,	Lieu
Castor (FL)	Vicente	Lofgren
Chavez-DeRemer	Good (VA)	Loudermilk
Chu	Gooden (TX)	Lucas
Cicilline	Gosar	Luetkemeyer
Ciscomani	Gottheimer	Luna
Clark (MA)	Granger	Luttrell
Clarke (NY)	Graves (LA)	Lynch
Cline	Graves (MO)	Mace
Cloud	Green (TN)	Magaziner
Clyburn	Green, Al (TX)	Malliotakis
Clyde	Griffith	Mann
Cole	Grijalva	Manning
Collins	Grothman	Mast
Comer	Guest	Matsui
Connolly	Guthrie	McBath
Correa	Hageman	McCauley
Courtney	Harder (CA)	McClain
Craig	Harris	McClellan
Crane	Harshbarger	McClintock
Crawford	Hayes	McCollum
Crenshaw	Hern	McCormick
Crockett	Higgins (LA)	McGarvey
Crow	Higgins (NY)	McGovern
Cuellar	Hill	McHenry
Curtis	Himes	Meeks
D'Esposito	Hinson	Menendez
Davids (KS)	Houchin	Meng
Davidson	Houlahan	Meuser
Davis (IL)	Hoyer	Mfume
Davis (NC)	Hoyle (OR)	Miller (IL)

Miller (OH)	Ramirez	Steube
Miller (WV)	Raskin	Stevens
Miller-Meeks	Reschenthaler	Stewart
Mills	Rodgers (WA)	Strickland
Mollinaro	Rogers (AL)	Strong
Moolenaar	Rogers (KY)	Swalwell
Mooney	Rose	Sykes
Moore (AL)	Rosendale	Takano
Moore (UT)	Ross	Tenney
Moore (WI)	Rouzer	Thanedar
Moran	Roy	Thompson (CA)
Morelle	Ruiz	Thompson (MS)
Moskowitz	Ruppersberger	Thompson (PA)
Moulton	Rutherford	Tiffany
Mrvan	Ryan	Timmons
Mullin	Salazar	Titus
Murphy	Salinas	Tlaib
Nadler	Sánchez	Tokuda
Napolitano	Santos	Tonko
Neal	Sarbanes	Torres (CA)
Neguse	Scalise	Torres (NY)
Nehls	Scanlon	Trahan
Newhouse	Schakowsky	Trone
Nickel	Schiff	Turner
Norcross	Schneider	Underwood
Norman	Scholten	Valadao
Nunn (IA)	Schrier	Van Drew
Obornolte	Schweikert	Van Duyne
Ocasio-Cortez	Scott (VA)	Vasquez
Ogles	Scott, Austin	Veasey
Omar	Scott, David	Velázquez
Owens	Self	Walberg
Pallone	Sessions	Waltz
Palmer	Sewell	Wasserman
Panetta	Sherman	Schultz
Pappas	Sherill	Waters
Pascarella	Simpson	Watson Coleman
Payne	Slotkin	Weber (TX)
Pelosi	Smith (MO)	Webster (FL)
Peltola	Smith (NE)	Wenstrup
Pence	Smith (NJ)	Westerman
Perez	Smith (WA)	Wexton
Perry	Smucker	Wild
Peters	Sorensen	Williams (GA)
Pettersen	Soto	Williams (NY)
Pfizer	Spanberger	Williams (TX)
Phillips	Spartz	Wilson (FL)
Pingree	Stansbury	Wilson (SC)
Pocan	Stanton	Wittman
Porter	Stauber	Womack
Posey	Steel	Yakym
Pressley	Stefanik	Zinke
Quigley	Steil	

NAYS—2

Greene (GA)
Massie

NOT VOTING—19

Arrington	Cherfilus-	Horsford
Banks	McCormick	Kelly (IL)
Bergman	Cleaver	Lee (CA)
Boebert	Cohen	Van Orden
Buchanan	Costa	Vargas
Burlison	Garamendi	Wagner
Castro (TX)	Goldman (NY)	

□ 1854

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have noted “yea” on rollcall No. 163.

PRC IS NOT A DEVELOPING COUNTRY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1107) to direct the Secretary of State to take certain actions with respect to the labeling of the People's Republic of China as a developing country, and for other purposes, as

amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 0, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 164]

YEAS—415

Adams	Cuellar	Harshbarger
Aderholt	Curtis	Hayes
Aguilar	D'Esposito	Hern
Alford	Davids (KS)	Higgins (LA)
Allen	Davidson	Higgins (NY)
Allred	Davis (IL)	Hill
Amodei	Davis (NC)	Himes
Armstrong	De La Cruz	Hinson
Arrington	Dean (PA)	Houchin
Auchincloss	DeGette	Houlahan
Babin	DeLauro	Hoyer
Bacon	DelBene	Hoyle (OR)
Baird	Deluzio	Hudson
Balderson	DeSaulnier	Huffman
Balint	DesJarlais	Huizenga
Barr	Diaz-Balart	Hunt
Barragán	Dingell	Issa
Bean (FL)	Doggett	Ivey
Beatty	Donalds	Jackson (IL)
Bentz	Duarte	Jackson (NC)
Bera	Duncan	Jackson (TX)
Beyer	Dunn (FL)	Jackson Lee
Bice	Edwards	Jacobs
Biggs	Ellzey	James
Bilirakis	Emmer	Jayapal
Bishop (GA)	Escobar	Jeffries
Bishop (NC)	Eshoo	Johnson (GA)
Blumenauer	Españillat	Johnson (LA)
Blunt Rochester	Estes	Johnson (OH)
Bonamici	Evans	Johnson (SD)
Bost	Ezell	Jordan
Bowman	Fallon	Joyce (OH)
Boyle (PA)	Feenstra	Joyce (PA)
Brecheen	Ferguson	Kamllager-Dove
Brown	Finstad	Kaptur
Brownley	Fischbach	Kean (NJ)
Buck	Fitzgerald	Keating
Bucshon	Fitzpatrick	Kelly (MS)
Budzinski	Fleischmann	Kelly (PA)
Burchett	Fletcher	Khanna
Burgess	Flood	Kiggans (VA)
Burlison	Foster	Kildee
Bush	Foushee	Kiley
Calvert	Fox	Kilmer
Cammack	Frankel, Lois	Kim (CA)
Caraveo	Franklin, C.	Kim (NJ)
Carbajal	Scott	Krishnamoorthi
Cárdenas	Frost	Kuster
Carey	Fry	Kustoff
Carl	Fulcher	LaHood
Carson	Gaetz	LaLota
Carter (GA)	Gallagher	LaMalfa
Carter (LA)	Gallego	Lamborn
Carter (TX)	Garbarino	Landsman
Cartwright	Garcia (IL)	Langworthy
Casar	Garcia (TX)	Larsen (WA)
Case	Garcia, Mike	Larson (CT)
Casten	Garcia, Robert	Latta
Castor (FL)	Gimenez	LaTurner
Chavez-DeRemer	Golden (ME)	Lawler
Chu	Gomez	Lee (FL)
Cicilline	Gonzales, Tony	Lee (NV)
Ciscomani	Gonzalez,	Lee (PA)
Clark (MA)	Vicente	Leger Fernandez
Clarke (NY)	Good (VA)	Lesko
Cline	Gooden (TX)	Letlow
Cloud	Gosar	Levin
Clyburn	Gottheimer	Lieu
Clyde	Granger	Lofgren
Cole	Graves (LA)	Loudermilk
Collins	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Comer	Green (TN)	Luetkemeyer
Connolly	Green, Al (TX)	Luna
Correa	Greene (GA)	Luttrell
Courtney	Griffith	Lynch
Craig	Grothman	Mace
Crane	Guest	Magaziner
Crawford	Guthrie	Malliotakis
Crenshaw	Hageman	Mann
Crockett	Harder (CA)	Manning
Crow	Harris	Massie

Mast	Perez	Stanton
Matsui	Perry	Stauber
McBath	Peters	Steel
McCaul	Pettersen	Stefanik
McClain	Pfluger	Steil
McClellan	Phillips	Steube
McClintock	Pingree	Stevens
McCollum	Pocan	Stewart
McCormick	Porter	Strickland
McGarvey	Posey	Strong
McGovern	Pressley	Swalwell
McHenry	Ramirez	Sykes
Meeks	Raskin	Takano
Menendez	Reschenthaler	Tenney
Meng	Rodgers (WA)	Thanedar
Meuser	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (CA)
Mfume	Rogers (KY)	Thompson (MS)
Miller (IL)	Rose	Thompson (PA)
Miller (OH)	Rosendale	Tiffany
Miller (WV)	Ross	Timmons
Miller-Meeks	Rouzer	Titus
Mills	Roy	Tlaib
Molinaro	Ruiz	Tokuda
Moolenaar	Ruppersberger	Tonko
Mooney	Rutherford	Torres (CA)
Moore (AL)	Ryan	Torres (NY)
Moore (UT)	Salazar	Trahan
Moore (WI)	Salinas	Trone
Moran	Sánchez	Turner
Morelle	Santos	Underwood
Moskowitz	Sarbanes	Valadao
Moulton	Scalise	Van Drew
Mrvan	Scanlon	Van Duyne
Mullin	Schakowsky	Vasquez
Murphy	Schiff	Veasey
Nadler	Schneider	Velázquez
Napolitano	Scholten	Walberg
Neal	Schrier	Waltz
Neguse	Schweikert	Wasserman
Nehls	Scott (VA)	Schultz
Newhouse	Scott, Austin	Waters
Nickel	Scott, David	Watson Coleman
Norcross	Self	Weber (TX)
Norman	Sessions	Webster (FL)
Nunn (IA)	Sewell	Wenstrup
Oberholte	Sherman	Westerman
Ocasio-Cortez	Sherrill	Wexton
Ogles	Simpson	Wild
Omar	Slotkin	Williams (GA)
Owens	Smith (MO)	Williams (NY)
Pallone	Smith (NE)	Williams (TX)
Palmer	Smith (NJ)	Wilson (FL)
Panetta	Smith (WA)	Wilson (SC)
Pappas	Smucker	Wittman
Pascarella	Sorensen	Womack
Payne	Soto	Yakym
Pelosi	Spanberger	Zinke
Peltola	Spartz	
Pence	Stansbury	

NOT VOTING—19

Banks	Cleaver	Kelly (IL)
Bergman	Cohen	Lee (CA)
Boebert	Costa	Quigley
Buchanan	Garamendi	Van Orden
Castro (TX)	Goldman (NY)	Vargas
Cherfilus-	Grijalva	Wagner
McCormick	Horsford	

□ 193

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING GEORGE DUKE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. George Duke, the chairman and sole owner of Zippo Manufacturing Company.

Started by George's grandfather in 1932, Zippo has become an American icon. From earning the nickname "the GI's friend" to becoming an inter-

national pop culture symbol, this famous windproof lighter transcends generations.

Since its invention, every Zippo windproof lighter has been proudly manufactured in Bradford, Pennsylvania. George knows Zippo's success would not be possible without the local community, and he continually gives back to the place he calls home.

Zippo's most recent investment in Bradford's future is through a generous gift to the University of Pittsburgh's Bradford Campus. Last fall, the campus opened a new engineering and information technologies building, and thanks to Zippo's investment, students are learning in state-of-the-art engineering labs.

This investment provides a hands-on, cutting-edge experience for students, ultimately helping them pursue successful engineering careers in the region and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, this investment goes beyond the walls of Pitt-Bradford. It is an investment in our community and in our future.

On behalf of a grateful community, I thank George Duke for his tremendous dedication to building a thriving workforce in Pennsylvania's northern tier.

ONE VOTE TO BAN ASSAULT WEAPONS

(Mr. LANDSMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a very heavy heart.

As a parent, my 11-year-old son is with me today on the House floor because it is spring break. I cannot imagine the pain and suffering that those parents in Nashville are experiencing.

As a Member of Congress, I can say that this is something that we can stop. It is complicated. We have a mental health crisis, and that is going to take a lot of time, a lot of money, and a lot of energy, but the guns, that is one vote to ban assault weapons, to tell the Defense Department, hey, buy all these assault weapons, these 20 million assault weapons. Give them to the military where they belong, and pass criminal background checks for all the other guns.

That is it. One vote. We are Congress. We can do it with a single vote. We just need more of us.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. JESSICA MILLER MULLINIX

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. Jessica Miller Mullinix, a loving wife and doctor at Candler Hospital in Savannah.

Jessica had practiced as an obstetrician/gynecologist at Candler Hospital

in Savannah for 4 years, building a loyal following of patients, colleagues, and coworkers.

Jessica graduated with magna cum laude honors from the University of Georgia in 2009 and the Mercer University School of Medicine in 2014.

During her time at the Mercer University School of Medicine's Savannah campus, Jessica met her husband, Dr. Patrick Mullinix.

Jessica completed her residency at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Virginia, in 2018 before joining the staff at Candler where she was the first OB/GYN to serve the Pooler area at the St. Joseph's/Candler-Pooler Campus.

During her residency and 4 years at Candler, Jessica delivered more than a thousand babies.

Despite her health struggles, Jessica continued to work full time at Candler, fully dedicated to the many patients that depended on her.

Jessica will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family.

□ 1915

PUTTING PEOPLE OVER POLLUTERS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was hopeful that this Congress would be able to work together on bipartisan permitting reform. Unfortunately, it looks like extreme MAGA Republicans are hijacking H.R. 1 to put polluters over people. They seek to silence the voice of the community while doing little to nothing to lower energy costs.

Climate change is real. We need more American energy production across the board. Oil and gas workers in my district know that energy jobs can mean a real shot at the American Dream for working families.

This extreme MAGA proposal won't create all the energy jobs we must to remain globally competitive, but it does do this: It increases the deficit by \$2.4 billion.

We shouldn't have to choose between dirty air and polluted water just to meet the energy needs of the future. H.R. 1 picks winners and losers. The wealthy and well-connected win; workers lose.

I believe in workers. House Democrats will continue to lower energy costs for everyone and give future generations a cleaner, healthier environment because we put people over polluters.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LINDA GREENBLATT

(Mr. MOLINARO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Mrs. Linda Greenblatt, a beloved social studies teacher who passed away on March 18 after decades of service to the Red Hook Central School District.

As a former student of Mrs. Greenblatt, I can attest to the profound impact she had in the classroom. She had a passion for teaching, and her lessons made students excited about history and government.

What I admire most about her is that she saw the potential in every student. She was the type of teacher who would allow students to do a project if they weren't able to take the test. This individualized approach helped students like me to realize their strengths and achieve their goals.

I thank her, as do so many, for being one of the people who got me interested in public service and helped me recognize at a very young age that every person has significant strengths and abilities.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring the memory of Mrs. Linda Greenblatt. May her legacy continue to inspire future generations of educators and students alike.

CREATE A FEDERAL OFFICE FOR GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

(Mr. FROST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I am furious, angry that three kids died today in Nashville, Tennessee; angry that hundreds of parents had to cry their eyes out today not knowing if their child would come home from school; and angry that we have to live day after day when we turn on the news to see rampant gun violence claiming life after life.

All of this is because of politicians in this Chamber that have been bought and paid for by the NRA, that put profits over people, over human lives, cowards who wasted our time last week passing a parental bill of rights, not giving a damn about the rights of children to be able to go to their classroom without the fear of being gunned down due to senseless gun violence.

It is likely that, at this moment, the next mass shooter is planning their shooting. What will this Chamber do about it?

I filed my first bill last week to simply create a Federal office of gun violence prevention. Three kids are dead today, and every day that we wait, 100 more people die.

I pray to God that there are some Republicans in this Chamber who can help support my legislation to save lives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BENNO LUENSMANN

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a giant in agriculture in the 15th Congressional District of Texas. Benno Luensmann of Seguin, Texas, passed away earlier this year after a storied career in Texas ag.

Benno was successful in so many different areas that it is hard just to pick one. He and his brothers built their cattle business in Guadalupe County, a company grown from what his son called a beat-up sell barn that became a thriving enterprise.

In addition to his success in cattle, Benno served the community as the local fair president and on numerous local committees. In addition to his community service and cattle business, he was an educator, having taught at Seguin High School and Texas Lutheran University. He also served as a consultant to the USDA and spent time in Asia before returning home.

Benno rightfully received recognition for his accomplishments and leaves behind a legacy in ag and the larger Seguin community.

To his wife, Shirley, and his children, Bryan, Reagan, Yvonne, and Donna, thank you so much for sharing your husband and father with the community. He touched many generations of farmers and ranchers and his local community.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ANNIE DAYE

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight some of our unsung heroes of eastern North Carolina, our schoolbus drivers.

Mr. Speaker, our schoolbus drivers go above and beyond when it comes to getting the job done, and Ms. Annie Daye, at Central Elementary School in Jackson, North Carolina, is without exception.

A native of Northampton County, Ms. Daye has been a schoolbus driver for nearly 50 years in the county where she grew up, making a daily impact on the lives of her 40 young passengers.

In addition to being the first person to offer students a warm smile and greeting in the morning, she creates a caring, safe environment where children can feel secure and understood.

Mr. Speaker, we need to do all we can to support schoolbus drivers to ensure every child across the First Congressional District and America has a champion like Ms. Daye.

Let's tell a schoolbus driver thank you. I thank Ms. Daye for her nearly 50 years.

UNLOCK AMERICA'S DOMESTIC ENERGY POTENTIAL

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, American families are faced with historically high inflation and energy prices.

Energy demand is expected to increase by 50 percent by 2050. Gas and oil needs will increase, and they will be met whether it is in this country or other countries around the world that haven't gone all-electric or aren't being forced into doing so.

America's needs for minerals necessary for the defense and tech sectors are projected to grow exponentially.

To meet these crises, an all-of-the-above approach is needed for American energy. Unfortunately, the NEPA permitting process hinders American domestic energy expansion.

For example, it can take a decade to open a new mine in the U.S., while other countries such as Canada and Australia take only 3 years to do the same. There is nothing new under the Sun on what needs to be permitted. Get it done.

The NEPA permitting process is filled with repetitive assessments, lengthy and expensive litigation, and bureaucratic hurdles. It is almost impossible for new energy and infrastructure projects to ever see the light of day, but I think they want it that way.

What? Are we supposed to all live in caves and eat mealworms? That seems to be the direction we are going.

CONGRATULATING VNA HOSPICE OF NORTHWEST INDIANA

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the VNA Hospice of Northwest Indiana for receiving a Level 5 status from the We Honor Veterans program for the third consecutive year.

The women and men who volunteer to defend and protect our national security deserve every resource, consideration, and compassionate assistance when they return home.

As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and a prior local elected official in northwest Indiana for 15 years, I continue to be grateful for so many meaningful relationships with our veterans community. I will continue to do all I can to ensure our veterans receive the care and benefits that they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the VNA Hospice of Northwest Indiana for this recognition and appreciation of their unwavering commitment to supporting our veterans and all those in need.

THANKING BOB AND LINDA BRACKEN FOR THEIR SERVICE

(Mr. SANTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Bob and Linda Bracken of Port Washington for their 35 years of teaching in New York's Third Congressional District. I had the privilege of meeting them today and showing them around this very Chamber.

Mr. Bob Bracken is chock-full of knowledge, and he taught history courses for Port Washington public schools. His delightful wife, Mrs. Bracken, taught business courses in Great Neck South.

Unspoken heroes like Mr. and Mrs. Bracken paved the way for future generations, and I would like to place their names and legacy in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I thank Mr. and Mrs. Bracken from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of New York's Third Congressional District for all of their invaluable service to our community.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, when I entered the House of Representatives, I was 1 of just 24 women serving in Congress. Today, there are 154 women in Congress, out of 540 Members of the House and Senate. What progress our country has made in recognizing and embracing the equal role of women in all aspects of our society.

This Women's History Month, we have the opportunity to celebrate the success and sacrifices of those who have committed themselves to uplifting women, families, and our society.

Meanwhile, let's also rededicate ourselves to continuing to fight for the advancement and security of our mothers, wives, sisters, grandmothers, godmothers, and daughters.

It is more imperative than ever for us to carry forward the legacy of those who came before us and to do our part to pave the way for future generations. Let us embrace a world where there is no limit to what women can be and what we can achieve together.

HONORING TEACHER OF THE YEAR THERESA MAUGHAN

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise Theresa Maughan.

The East Orange Educator is New Jersey's 2022 State Teacher of the Year. She teaches 10th grade social studies at East Orange STEM Academy, and she is an inspiration to everyone in my district.

Ms. Maughan was born in Belize and immigrated to America when she was in elementary school. In her childhood, she was inspired to teach by her own social studies teacher. She has worked in education for 40 years.

Ms. Maughan tells her students that she tries to learn something new every day, and her commitment to my district's teachers and students has helped her win numerous awards, such as the 2021 Essex County Teacher of the Year.

Congratulations, again, to New Jersey's 2022 Teacher of the Year, Theresa Maughan. She is a great example of how teachers benefit our lives and communities every day.

ENSHRINE WOMEN'S RIGHTS INTO LAW

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise because it is Women's History Month.

I rise because I returned from Michigan on the heels of a Women's History Month event that I held yesterday in Farmington Hills, where I looked the women of my district in the face and promised them that I would return to the House of Representatives to seek to enshrine their rights into law.

Mr. Speaker, I rise because in the second year of this pandemic, maternal mortality increased by 40 percent, and in the following year, the Supreme Court repealed Roe v. Wade.

I rise because four women in Texas are suing for their right to bodily autonomy. Women are standing up and saying that they do not want to be subject to sepsis while trying to give birth to a child.

I rise because, in South Carolina, women will be prosecuted to a deeper extent than a rapist.

Mr. Speaker, I rise because I will not stop until we have enshrined women's rights into the law of this land.

□ 1930

NASHVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SHOOTING

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, a nightmare, a day of horror, and one that prayers and sympathy cannot quash the deep and piercing pain that the parents of these babies in an elementary school, a Christian school in Nashville, had to experience this morning at 10 a.m., and the loved ones of the adults that suffered an untimely death. How long is this Congress going to diddle-daddle around?

How long are we going to be divided over the reality that a 28-year-old who went to the school had two AR-15s and a handgun?

Oh, there is always the talk about the Second Amendment. I honor the Second Amendment, but I do not honor the violence of an assault weapon.

How many more babies can we lose?

How many more stories like Uvalde can we tolerate?

How many more parents, whose children's lives are just going to be snatched from them, are going to walk around like zombies?

It is time now to ban the assault weapons. Ban them now. It is time to address mental health issues in a larger way. It is time for this Congress to come together. It is time to stop the nightmare and to stop the horror.

How many more parents have to cry over dead babies? Ban assault weapons and do it now.

COMMEMORATING BLACK WOMEN AND THE ERA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCCORMICK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this CBC Special Order alongside the Honorable CORI BUSH of Missouri, founder of the first Congressional Caucus for the Equal Rights Amendment.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the CBC have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on finally getting the equal rights across the finish line and recognized as the 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, 100 years after it was first introduced in the House of Representatives, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the incredible efforts of African-American women who have advocated for the equal rights amendment, ERA, throughout history. Their resilience, passion, and determination have driven the relentless pursuit of gender equality and justice for all.

In the 1970s, prominent Black women like Pauli Murray, Shirley Chisholm, Flo Kennedy, and Barbara Jordan were instrumental in advancing the cause of women's rights and the ERA.

When the 28th amendment is finally recognized as part of the United States Constitution, Black women deserve to have significant credit for its passage. Their legacy reminds us of the power of unity, conviction, and perseverance in the face of adversity. Let us not forget the profound words of feminist lawyer and civil rights advocate, Pauli Murray, who testified for the ERA at a 1970

Senate Judiciary Committee hearing. She said, "As a constitutional lawyer, a woman, and a Black person, I can say with conviction that Black women as a group have the most to gain from the adoption of the equal rights amendment."

Let us draw strength from these words of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, who proclaimed in her speech in 1970, "I am for the equal rights amendment."

"This is what it comes down to: artificial distinctions between persons must be wiped out of the law. Legal discrimination between the sexes is, in almost every instance, founded on outmoded views of society and the prescientific beliefs about psychology and physiology. It is time to sweep away these relics of the past and set future generations free of them."

Mr. Speaker, let us be inspired by the words of Representative Barbara Jordan, who said, "The equal rights amendment is a mandate for change. It is a standard by which to measure our future legal and social constructs. . . . The equal rights amendment is for men and women. It is a constructive force for liberating the minds of men and the place of women. It is inclusive."

As we pay tribute to these trailblazing Black women, it is crucial to recognize that the fight for gender and racial equality is still ongoing. The number of Black women in Congress remains disproportionately low compared to the diverse population they represent.

As of today, only 57 women of African-American ancestry out of 12,505 people who have served in this august body have ever served in this Congress, a mere fraction of the total number of Representatives and Senators who have shared and served throughout our Nation's history.

Only two African-American women have ever served in the Senate and none in the Governor's mansion. The Senator is Democrat Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois, elected in 1992, and current Vice President, Mrs. Kamala Harris.

This underrepresentation is a call to action for all of us, a reminder that we must continue to strive for a government that is truly representative of the people it serves. We must also recognize that the fight for gender and racial equality is not limited to the Halls of Congress.

Across our Nation, countless Black women and women of color continue to face barriers in access to education and access to healthcare and access to employment opportunities and access to equal pay.

The struggle for justice and equality is a daily battle fought by millions of women who refuse to be silenced or sidelined in their pursuit of a more just and inclusive society. It is our responsibility as citizens and as leaders to ensure that the voices of Black women and women of color are heard, their concerns are addressed, and their con-

tributions are acknowledged and celebrated.

We must work together to dismantle the systems of oppression and discrimination that continue to hold back so many of our sisters, daughters, and mothers from reaching their full potential. As we continue to push forward, let us remember the words of the great civil rights leader, Reverend Martin Luther King, who said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Let us then bend that arc toward justice together and make the equal rights amendment a reality for all.

In the name of all those who have fought for justice, for equality, and for the rights of women, let us say amen.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH).

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise today for the equal rights amendment.

We rise on this historic occasion, on the eve of the birth of the Congressional Caucus for the Equal Rights Amendment, a caucus I am proud to be founding tomorrow alongside my co-chair-in-service, my sister-in-service, Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY.

We rise in the tradition of those who led this fight before us, those whose shoulders we now stand upon: shoulders like Pauli Murray, Shirley Chisholm, and Barbara Jordan.

On this ERA caucus eve, as we near the close of Women's History Month, it is only fitting that we are here on the floor of this U.S. House of Representatives with our Congressional Black Caucus colleagues, because Black women have always been leaders of the fight to enshrine equality in our Nation's Constitution, but we haven't always been in the headlines for leading that work. Today, we are here to declare that the reason the ERA is a priority for the CBC is because everyone in our communities has something to gain from its finalization. Black women, girls, and queer folk have the most to gain. We are here continuing to lead, demanding exactly what is owed to us: equality.

Because, you see, the Constitution, in all its wisdom, guaranteed fundamental inalienable rights, but stopped short of guaranteeing those rights for everyone. Women? We were written out. Black women? Not only were we written out, but too many authors of the Constitution were busy enslaving, exploiting, and extracting the labor of our ancestors for profit and were unconcerned with what was owed to us: equal rights, nothing less.

We need to start by being honest about who is harmed the most when equal rights are not enshrined in our Constitution. We know that without the ERA, the patchwork legislation that we have in place to protect women—including provisions of the Equal Pay Act, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX, and the Violence Against Women Act—has primarily benefited and made gains for White women. Now

is the time to build on those gains and expand protections for all women and LGBTQ+ folks, all of us, too.

This is our moment. One hundred years since the ERA was introduced in this body, 100 years. This is our moment to finalize the ERA so that we modernize the Constitution and make sure the fight for equality not only includes but centers the people who have been left behind, because we were written out of this document.

One hundred years, and all we are asking for is 24 words. In 24 words, 24 simple words, the equal rights amendment will add to our Constitution that: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

That is it. In other words, this amendment would make the "we" in the "we the people" become "us," all of us. In doing so, the ERA can protect people from gender-based discrimination by simultaneously acting as a vehicle for progress.

We see it here. This is just a portion. It can work to ensure permanent protections, like fair wages, like violence prevention, like healthcare equity, like reproductive freedom, like LGBTQ+ rights, and like much else we not only deserve but are entitled to and are owed. Equality and nothing less. That is what we are asking for.

But we need the ERA, and we need it now, because equality is overdue. Equality is overdue.

I rise in support of the equal rights amendment today, on the shoulders of the scores of Black women and LGBTQ+ people who have toiled on this initiative for 100 whole years, to amplify their calls, calls they made in this very Chamber and outside of it, calls that resonate today even as the attacks against us intensify, calls to publish the ERA now. Publish the ERA now. Publish the equal rights amendment now, because equality is overdue.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman CORI BUSH for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), my distinguished colleague.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman for his leadership on a very important topic this evening that brings us all together.

I thank Congresswoman CORI BUSH for the vibrancy, along with Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY, in the organizing of the ERA Caucus. It is important that we work together to ensure that the equal rights amendment becomes law.

I am reminded of my entering Congress. I don't know if anyone would realize that there was a statue for suffragette women, women in the early 1900s who were seeking the women's right to vote. Even earlier than that, Sojourner Truth, who we galvanized around, with the National Congress for Black Women, to provide an opportunity for Sojourner Truth to even

have a statue here as an early suffragette and abolitionist.

When I came, the statue honoring women, who fought for women's rights and the right to vote, was in the basement. It was women, Members of the House and the Senate, who had to organize and fight to lift that very awesome sculpture out of the basement, covered by dust, to be able to be put in the rotunda.

We still have work undone, because it was a half-finished sculpture. African-American women argued that they did not have Sojourner Truth in that statue, who was an abolitionist and leader on women's rights.

□ 1945

We did it through legislation, myself and Senator Clinton, we did, in fact, get a statue sculptured by an African-American woman of Sojourner Truth, she now remains in Emancipation Hall, and our task is not yet finished to be able to place her in the rotunda along with the other statues.

I say that to say that this Caucus, this announcement, couldn't be more important, and the reason is because Black women were very instrumental in having the loudest voices; realizing even then that Black women had the lowest hourly wage, Black women were still domestic workers, Black women were not, in fact, equal in many aspects of the law.

Pauli Murray, who I honor; Shirley Chisholm, Flo Kennedy, all of whom I remember and know, and Barbara Jordan, are a few of the prominent Black women who have advocated for the equal rights amendment in the 1970s.

Many Black organizations endorsed the ERA, including the National Black Feminist Organization, the NAACP, and the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists. A 1970s Gallup poll showed that 60 percent of Black women wanted the ERA. This has been a long history.

There is a long history of activism that Black women and women of color in support of women's rights and the ERA, stated by historian and professor of Africana studies, Dr. Mary Phillips.

Today, Black women still play a critical role in pushing for the ERA. In three States, to recently ratify the ERA, Black women were at the forefront. Nevada Senator Pat Spearman led a successful campaign for the ratification of the ERA in her State in 2017, and Representative Juliana Stratton made extensive floor speeches in support of the ERA in Illinois.

As well, JENNIFER MCCLELLAN led the successful effort to ratify the ERA in Virginia, finally bringing the total ratification of the ERA to 38 States required to become part of the Constitution.

And yet, we did not make our mark. Yet, we have more work to do. Yet, we are struggling to ensure that in 2023 Black women will have equal rights in the court. Black women will have equal rights in healthcare. Black women will have equal rights in education. Black

women will have equal rights in the issue of sexual assaults and rape when women are charged with agreeing or consent, which is not true. Equal rights to be heard. Equal rights in work. Equal rights in payments.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support my colleagues, and really to acknowledge these brave and historic women. I am so proud that my predecessor, the Honorable Barbara Jordan, was one of those who stood regally tall along with the first African-American woman in the United States Congress, Shirley Chisholm.

Of course, who could forget Flo Kennedy wearing those hats. Who could forget feminist and civil rights advocate Pauli Murray, who testified for the equal rights amendment at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in 1970. In her testimony, Murray drew up upon her own experience of race and sex, and these are her words:

"Although my motivation, energy, and effort to meet the highest standards of performance have been operative throughout my life, I have experienced numerous delays in my career, not for the traditional reasons given for the failure of women to develop on par with men in our society (marriage, childbearing, et cetera), but by a combination of individual and institutional racism and sexism—Jim Crow and June Crow."

As a constitutional lawyer, a woman, and a Black person, I can say with conviction that Black women, as a group, have the most to gain from the adoption of the equal rights amendment. All that has been said about the frustration and deprivations of American women, generally because of discrimination by reason of sex, can be said with special force about the position of Black women.

My concluding remarks—maybe she didn't call herself a fighter for the ERA, but Harriet Tubman was a fighter for justice and took slaves out of the Deep South. Her words were this:

If you hear the dogs coming, keep on moving. If you hear the noise, keep on moving. If you see the lights, keep on moving. Because if you want a taste of freedom, keep on moving.

Tonight we stand here for freedom and the equal rights amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a timeline of the equal rights movement.

1840:

Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton are barred from attending the World Anti-Slavery Convention held in London. They decide to hold a Women's Convention in the U.S.

1850:

Massachusetts, is the site of the first National Women's Rights Convention. Frederick Douglass, Paulina Wright Davis, William Lloyd Garrison, Lucy Stone, and Sojourner Truth attend. A strong alliance is formed with the Abolitionist Movement.

1851:

At a women's rights convention in Akron, Ohio, Sojourner Truth, a former slave, delivers her speech, "Ain't I a woman?"

1870:

The Fifteenth Amendment gave Black men the right to vote. The National Woman's Suffrage Association refused to work for its ratification. Frederick Douglass broke with Stanton and Anthony over this position.

1890:

The National Woman Suffrage Association and the American Woman Suffrage Association, merged to formally expand the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). NAWSA focused on enfranchisement solely for white women.

1913:

The Alpha Suffrage Club was founded, with Ida B. Wells as one of the co-founders and leaders, this is believed to be the first African-American women's suffrage association in the United States.

1920:

Three quarters of the state legislatures ratify the Nineteenth Amendment.

1940:

Jim Crow laws such as poll taxes and literacy tests are enacted, designed to keep Black citizens from voting.

1965:

500 activists march from Selma to Montgomery, AL to demand voting rights for Black citizens. They are brutally attacked by law enforcement.

1965:

President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act into law.

2011:

Record numbers of state restrictions are enacted on voting, including voter ID laws and restrictions to early voting.

2013:

The Supreme Court strikes down the heart of the Voting Rights Act by a 5-to-4 vote, freeing states to change their election laws.

The first Equal Rights Amendment was drafted by the National Women's Party in 1921 to enshrine equality for women in the Constitution.

Fifty-one years later, the Equal Rights Amendment won the requisite two-thirds vote in the House of Representatives and passed the Senate.

In 2020, Virginia became the thirty-eighth state to vote in favor of the ERA, but whether the ERA has accordingly been ratified remains politically and legally contested.

Since 2013, Black Lives Matter has been a global social movement advocating against anti-Black racism and state-sanctioned violence, including but not limited to police brutality against Black men and women.

The movement has attracted broad participation by non-Black activists and lawmakers following the police murder of George Floyd.

SUFFRAGE IN AMERICA: THE 15TH AND 19TH AMENDMENTS

During the 19th and 20th centuries, Black women played an active role in the struggle for universal suffrage.

WHO GOT THE RIGHT TO VOTE WHEN?

August 18, 2020 marked 100 years since the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution granting women the right to vote.

However, obstacles like poll taxes, literacy tests and other discriminatory state voting laws would keep Black women (and men) disenfranchised for a further 45 years.

BLACK WOMEN HAD TO FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO VOTE ON TWO FRONTS

They were suffragists combating both racism and sexism long after the 19th Amendment was passed.

Women of color were crucial to women's suffrage—it's time we acknowledge them.

Wagner, who is behind books such as *Women's Suffrage Anthology* and *Sisters in Spirit*, has for almost 30 years studied the Haudenosaunee (or the Iroquois) influence on the early feminist movements.

MORE TO THE MOVEMENT

While Seneca Falls is considered the first American convention to focus exclusively on women's rights, the first convention to consider women's rights as an issue was the May 9, 1837, Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women in New York City.

LEGISLATION: H.J. RES. 25

Women have done the work of preserving and defending our democracy for centuries, and it is past time our laws recognize our contributions and the historic role that we have played.

The first time the ERA was put forward, women of color were not part of the conversation. Now, we're leading and working in coalition to advance this priority.

Our resolution will help address centuries of gender disparities in America by removing the unnecessary barriers that have prevented us from enshrining the dignity, humanity, and equality of all people into our Constitution.

We as women have done our job, the states have done their job, and now it's time for Congress to do its job and pass this resolution.

I know how transformative the ERA will be for millions of women and our LGBTQ siblings across this country.

H.J. RES. 25 HISTORY/WHAT THE BILL DOES

The ERA has been introduced in every session of Congress until it passed in 1972 in both the House and Senate.

Congress then placed an arbitrary deadline on the ratification process.

Our resolution would remove the arbitrary deadline imposed by Congress and affirm the ratification of the ERA as the 28th Amendment.

The only thing standing in the way of ratification is Congress passing legislation to remove that arbitrary deadline and declare the ERA valid, since 38 states, making up three-fourths of the country, have now ratified the ERA.

80 percent of countries across the world have enshrined language within their Constitutions that establishes equal rights and protection for women. The United States must do the same.

BLACK WOMEN SUFFRAGISTS IN HISTORY

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

An abolitionist and women's suffrage leader who became one of the first Black writers to popularize African American protest poetry.

Ida B Wells-Barnett

Wells-Barnett was a prominent journalist, activist, and researcher, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

In her lifetime, she battled sexism, racism, and violence.

As a skilled writer, Wells-Barnett also used her skills as a journalist to shed light on the conditions of African Americans throughout the South.

(Isabella Bomfree) Sojourner Truth

Formerly enslaved, Sojourner Truth became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights in the nineteenth century.

She challenged the notions of racial and gender inferiority through notable speeches and a lecture tour, including "Ain't I A Woman?"

Her work to help formerly enslaved peoples find jobs and build new lives after the Civil War earned her an invitation to meet President Abraham Lincoln in 1864.

Mary Church Terrell

One of the first African American women to earn a college degree, Terrell helped found the National Association of Colored Women, was a key activist in the suffrage movement, and helped desegregate restaurants in D.C.

Daisy Elizabeth Adams Lampkin

Lampkin spent her life fighting for the right to vote and centered her work around many women's organizations, including becoming the president of the Lucy Stone Woman Suffrage League in 1915.

Nannie Helen Burroughs

A prominent African American educator, church leader and suffragette, Burroughs also helped found the National Association of Colored Women and was a lead writer on injustices endured by the African American community.

Sarah Parker Remond

Born in 1824, Remond brought a legal case against a theater after being forced out when she refused to sit in segregated seats.

She won the case and the theatre was ordered to stop segregated seating.

She became a speaker for the American Anti-Slavery Society and fought for voting rights in the US as well as abolition on an international scale.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE for those outstanding remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am so appreciative that we have male colleagues like you who do see this as a shared fight, and we appreciate your leadership and partnership in this moment.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my sister in service, my partner in good, on so many issues of consequence, Representative CORI BUSH, for your leadership, your ingenuity, and your partnership. I never grow tired of your saying: St. Louis and I rise. I know every time that you say that, St. Louis and those that are the most marginalized, ignored, left out, and left behind are being advanced in that moment—that justice is on the way.

As Black women who have earned the right to be Members of this august body, we find ourselves at the intersection of both race and gender. Some of the most profound and most impactful policies come directly from our lived experiences.

Each day as we walk these sacred Halls of power, we see statues and portraits of White men that serve as reminders of the inequality and the lack of parity in these Halls in our Nation's past and present.

For centuries, the contributions of Black women have been excluded from the narrative and marginalized in history, but not today. Today, there will be no erasure. We will give all the flowers to Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan, and Pauli Murray.

Black women, they believed, are inherently valued, and our equality is a necessity. They advocated for the ERA to codify those truths in our Constitution. Ratifying the ERA is not only about history, it is about the here and now. Black women are still organizing at the forefront of the women's rights movement. Zakiya Thomas, Christian Nunes, Melanie Campbell, and Fatima Goss Graves are community builders and organizational leaders that are working daily to get the job done: Black women, justice seekers, truth tellers, pace setters, table shakers, always doing the work of liberation, even when our own was often sacrificed.

I feel especially encouraged and emboldened that Black women are a part of the multigenerational and multiracial coalition leading and working in an intersectional way to advance policy change.

This Congress, I introduced a joint resolution to finally make the equal rights amendment the 28th amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, but I did not introduce it alone. I was joined by Congresswoman KAMLAGER-DOVE, MADELEINE DEAN, SYLVIA GARCIA, ABIGAIL SPANBERGER, and, of course, my partner in good, my sister in service, and co-chair of the Equal Rights Caucus, Representative CORI BUSH.

When the equal rights amendment was put forward 100 years ago, the coalition was not as diverse nor as inclusive. As a Black woman who has experienced firsthand many of the daily indignities of an unequal society and heard stories from my mother, Sandy, may she rest in peace and power, who throughout her career had to train men who were paid more and promoted over her—I know how transformative the ERA will be for millions of women and our LGBTQ siblings across this country.

It is long past time the Constitution affirms our equality—and our very existence—in the eyes of the law. The ramifications run deep as women face daily sexism, pregnancy discrimination, pay inequities, sexual violence, and persistent legislated attacks on our bodily autonomy.

We need the ERA now. I stand proudly with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, and my co-chair of the new ERA Caucus, to demand that Congress does its job, pass our resolution, and codify the equal rights amendment into the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that in short order there will be a calendar one day that will cite: On this day in history, the ERA Caucus was established. I look forward to the day that there will also be a calendar that notes: On this day in history, the ERA was passed.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable AYANNA PRESSLEY for her advocacy. I appreciate her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY).

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, to our Special Order Congressional Black Caucus chairman, Congressman JONATHAN JACKSON, it is my honor to stand here with you to thank you for your leadership and for all that you are doing—to be a Black man standing, talking about the equal rights amendment with us as members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, it also gives me great pleasure to be here tonight as the ninth woman to chair the Congressional Black Caucus, standing alongside with my colleagues as we pay tribute to countless advancements, achievements, and hard-fought victories by Black women to advance the equal rights amendment.

Let me just say, what an honor to thank the chairwomen of tonight's Special Order Hour, Congresswoman CORI BUSH and Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY.

You will hear tonight words like Sojourner, truth-tellers, fighters for freedom—that is just what you are. My sister, my friend, thank you for all that you do.

We stand here tonight on the heels of Black History Month, in the heart of Women's History Month, and we do so at such a critical time in our Nation's history. We stand on the shoulders of giants. Sherones who paved the way for the fight for civil rights and women's rights today, for women like us in this room and countless women across the Nation.

Women like Mary Church Terrell, "unbought and unbosomed" Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan, Flo Kennedy, Pauli Murray, Aileen Hernandez who were instrumental in elevating the cause of women's equality in the ERA.

Women like we have heard about already, Senator Spearman to Lieutenant Government Stratton, to our very own JENNIFER MCCLELLAN of Virginia. Black women led the way.

It is interesting when we say: What did it get us? Whose shoulders do we stand on?

It seems fitting for me to say today, as we bring members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to the Capitol to fight for some of those same rights as they did in 1913 when, yes, it was 22 Black women who brought up the rear of the march for the women's suffrage march.

□ 2000

It is important for me to highlight today, on this chart, nine women have served as leaders of the Congressional Black Caucus, making history fighting for equal rights.

But for that, we would not have, as noted here, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS and Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson.

We would not have two Black women in America today who are CEOs of Fortune 100 companies—just two.

We would not have in the Halls of this Capitol two women's statues, Rosa Parks, brought to the Capitol by Members—us—fighting for justice, and we

would not have from the State of Florida one of their two statues, Mary McLeod Bethune.

Nor would we have the only woman when we started, in 1971, in the Congressional Black Caucus—no other than Shirley Chisholm.

Nor would we have Charity Edna Earley, the first Black officer in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

We have come a long way, and we could put petitions and posters around this whole Chamber about why we came today.

Mr. Speaker, let me conclude by saying that I am joining my colleagues to demand Congress act to finally adopt the equal rights amendment into the United States Constitution because, as I love saying, when women succeed, America succeeds.

The late Maya Angelou stated: "Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women."

Today, Mr. Speaker, we stand up with Congresswoman BUSH and Congresswoman PRESSLEY.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I sincerely thank the Honorable Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY of the State of Ohio for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from the great State of New York (Ms. CLARKE).

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois, JONATHAN JACKSON, for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise on this day to acknowledge and thank Congresswoman CORI BUSH and Congresswoman AYANNA PRESSLEY for their unyielding, unflinching, and unapologetic leadership and for leading the charge on the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

I rise today to reaffirm that ever-present need to have this ratification take place, as well as to recognize the tireless efforts and work of Black women on behalf of that mission.

It was more than half a century ago that the ERA first passed Congress due in large part to the efforts in drafting, advancing, and organizing by trailblazing Black women.

With that said, I am reminded of the words written by one of my congressional predecessors, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, decades ago in the very spot where I stand right now. She said: "Of course, laws will not eliminate prejudice from the hearts of human beings, but that is no reason to allow prejudice to continue to be enshrined in our laws, to perpetuate injustice through inaction."

Mr. Speaker, we are tired of the inaction. We are tired of the injustice. We are tired of being tired. So, it is my privilege to join the first-ever Congressional Equal Rights Amendment Caucus in history and support legislative efforts to affirm the ERA as the 28th amendment to the Constitution.

For decades, Black women have continued to pave the path toward ratifi-

cation, and I am proud to see we are carrying on that legacy today.

Mr. Speaker, I thank every woman who has played a significant and substantial role and continues to play their position in this battle and in this fight for equal rights. As the Honorable Marcus Garvey admonished each and every woman out there: Forward ever, backwards never.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman YVETTE CLARKE for her outstanding remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank my colleague, Mr. JACKSON of the great State of Illinois, for the opportunity to speak with you today.

Let me acknowledge my colleagues who are leading this fight, the Honorable CORI BUSH from the great State of Missouri, the Honorable AYANNA PRESSLEY from the great State of Massachusetts, and all the women who have held us down in the struggle. There would not be the great strides of African-American men if it were not for African-American women. I understand that, and I appreciate that every day.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the tremendous work of African-American women in the continued fight to pass the equal rights amendment, and I thank, once again, Representative BUSH for hosting this Special Order hour tonight.

The equal rights amendment is one of America's most important pieces of legislation. The amendment would guarantee equal legal rights for all Americans, regardless of gender.

The Constitution is an amazing document, and it is amazing how many people were left out of it. The ERA was written 100 years ago by Alice Paul, a New Jersey advocate for women's rights.

There have been several prominent African-American women who have made significant contributions to the Nation's fight for the equal rights amendment.

Pauli Murray was a lawyer and civil rights advocate who wrote the book "States' Laws on Race and Color." Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall called her book the bible of the civil rights movement.

Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American woman in Congress, and she introduced dozens of bills for gender and racial equality.

Flo Kennedy challenged the reputation of African Americans in the media and advertising.

Barbara Jordan was a lawyer and the first African-American woman from the South to be elected to Congress.

Many of my congressional colleagues continue their fight for women's rights every single day.

I am proud to be from a State with a long history of support for women's rights. In 1790, New Jersey was the first

State to enfranchise women in its constitution. Then, New Jersey's constitution was rewritten in 1947 to include equal rights for women—but that was only White women. In New Jersey, equal rights have been the law for 76 years.

Thanks to New Jersey's constitution, it is impossible to take those rights away. That is why we need a national equal rights amendment.

I am so proud of the gentlewoman from Missouri for spearheading this fight. It would keep extremist legislators from taking the hard-earned rights of women away from them.

If you look now at what is going on in this country, there is an effort to take rights away from many people—making it harder for them to vote, eliminating polling sites in minority areas, and not allowing people to get drinking water handed to them from someone else. There is already an assault to turn the clock back.

Is that what making America great again is all about, returning to a day when people don't have equal rights and making sure that minorities have a more difficult time exercising their rights?

Everyone thought that *Roe v. Wade* was the accepted law of the land, and look at where that has gone. It is chipping away at rights slowly but surely.

When African Americans got the right to vote, why was it only for a period of 25 years and then we have to revisit this topic every 25 years: Should we let Blacks vote, or should we not?

That baffles me. That absolutely baffles me. Why was it not just made the law of the land and forget about it?

It is because of times like now that we see what is going on. We are turning the clock back. We are questioning whether or not people should have the equal right to vote.

We are in a very dangerous time in this country. People are arming themselves with AR-15s. Someone is requesting that that be made the national gun of this country.

We are in a very dangerous time, and now an extremist Supreme Court has taken away the fundamental right for women to determine their own healthcare for their own bodies.

Mr. Speaker, one day my friends on the other side of the aisle say that government is too much in your business and your privacy—except when they want to take a woman's right to her healthcare. They want government to be involved in that. They don't want the government to be involved in anything important to them, but they feel that they have the right to determine what another woman does with her body. It is hypocritical. It is hypocrisy.

We must not let the legal rights that women deserve to be taken away from them. That is why we must pass the ERA, and we must pass it now.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable DONALD PAYNE, Jr., for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 18 minutes remaining.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS).

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me thank the gentleman from Illinois for co-hosting this Special Order hour with the gentlewoman from Missouri. I thank Representative CORI BUSH as well for spearheading the ERA and for working toward this fight for all of us.

I rise today to observe Women's History Month and to reiterate this year's Black History Month theme of Black Resistance.

Since we last celebrated Black History Month and Women's History Month, Ketanji Brown Jackson has become the first Black woman on the Supreme Court; Beyonce claimed the record for most Grammys won in a lifetime; Serena Williams retired as one of the most accomplished athletes of all time; Congresswoman SUMMER LEE became the first Black woman to represent Pennsylvania in Congress; and JENNIFER MCCLELLAN became the first Black Congresswoman from Virginia.

□ 2015

In my home of Charlotte, North Carolina, Vi Lyles made history as both the longest serving woman and the longest serving Black mayor in our city's history.

In Winston-Salem, North Carolina, my friend and mentor, the late Annie Brown Kennedy, the first Black woman to serve in the North Carolina General Assembly, passed away at the age of 98 after a long and storied career.

These women join the legacy of other women we are celebrating here today, the women who helped lead the movement for the adoption of the equal rights amendment.

The equal rights amendment is still absolutely necessary because, according to the Constitution, we are not equal. Just look at the Dobbs decision. Look at all of the legislation from the State to the Federal level that aims, intentionally or not, to tell women what they can do with their own bodies.

Look at the maternal health crisis in America. Even as science, technology, and healthcare make amazing advances, the number of women dying due to childbirth is going in the wrong direction, and Black women have mortality rates that are three times that.

As Women's History Month comes to an end, we must continue to teach the history of women—Black women, indigenous women, LGBTQ women, and women of color—from the halls of our campuses to the Halls of Congress because if you learn women's history, you learn very quickly how far we have come and how much further we have to go.

Each of us have a role in this history. If you learn this history, teach it. If you live this history, make it.

Join me and join us, join the CBC and all of my colleagues in renewing the

push for the equal rights amendment and equality for women not only in the United States but across the world.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman ALMA ADAMS for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. BROWN).

Ms. BROWN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my wonderful colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus for organizing this session tonight.

I join them today in recognizing the significant contributions of Black women to the advancement of the equal rights amendment.

Of the more than 12,000 Americans who have served in Congress, only 58 have been Black women. Remarkably, despite our historic and continuous small number among the Members of the House, Black women have often been the driving force behind significant policy shifts that have paved the way for change.

Among those achievements are landmark bills like the equal rights amendment, championed by Black women since its inception. A hero of many Americans inside and outside Capitol Grounds, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm was a relentless advocate for equal rights in America. Nicknamed "Fighting Shirley," she stood on this very floor in her first term and decreed that the ERA was destined to become the law of the land. Today, we honor her legacy by advocating for the long-overdue ratification of the ERA.

Congresswoman Chisholm did not stand alone in her fight for equal rights. From educator and activist Mary Church Terrell in the late 19th and early 20th centuries to Congresswoman Barbara Jordan in the 1970s, Black advocates for women's suffrage helped drive the ERA forward.

In recent years, we have seen leaders fight for State ratification of the ERA, including our newest colleague, Congresswoman JENNIFER MCCLELLAN, who along with two Black female colleagues—State Representative Jennifer Carroll Foy and fellow State Senator Mamie Locke—led the final charge that resulted in Virginia being the 38th State to ratify the amendment in 2020.

That legacy lives on, as my colleagues in the 118th Congress maintain and build on the work of our predecessors.

With Representative PRESSLEY's efforts to remove the constitutional deadline for ratification and Representative BUSH's leadership of the first-ever Congressional ERA Caucus, we are closer to ratification than ever before.

I stand in awe of the power, strength, and contributions of these trailblazers and icons, both past and present.

As we continue the fight today, it is an honor to walk alongside my Democratic Women's Caucus colleagues to enshrine the ERA in the Constitution, continuing the legacy work started by the Black women who came before me.

Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm envisioned the ERA as the law of the land

in 1969. She once said she wanted to be remembered as a woman who dared to be a catalyst of change, and she will always be known as just that.

Like our ancestors Terrell, Chisholm, Jordan, and more, Black women will continue to help lead the charge, but we cannot do it alone.

To my colleagues who have yet to join us in championing equal rights, I say to you: Dare to become a catalyst of change with us.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman SHONTEL BROWN for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker I now yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE), the Congresswoman from the city of Los Angeles.

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my brother and friend, Congressman JACKSON from the great State of Illinois, for managing this Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour and standing with his sisters.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work that my CBC colleagues are doing as we continue fighting to enshrine the equal rights amendment into our Constitution.

The ERA was sent to the States for ratification in 1972. As we reflect on the 100 years since the ERA was first proposed in 1923, attempts to ratify the amendment each year have faded. What is old has become new again, but the state of gender equality in our country has sadly remained unchanged.

Why all the controversy and why such difficulty in giving women the protection of the Constitution that should have been given to us long ago?

It is 2023. There is no reason that an arbitrary deadline should prevent women from having basic fundamental rights under the Constitution.

Around the country, women, especially women of color, continue to face discrimination in healthcare, in the workforce, in the boardroom, in the schools, and in everyday life.

Enough States have finally ratified the ERA, but it is past time that it becomes an official part of our Constitution and gives every woman in America full protection under the law.

If you support women, you should support the ERA. If you don't support women, stand up and say why you don't think your mother, daughter, sister, aunt, or grandmother deserves equal rights.

My colleagues, Representatives CORI BUSH and AYANNA PRESSLEY, have led a renewed charge to add a 28th amendment to our Constitution and enshrine the ERA into law. I thank them for their commitment to confronting gender equality in the face of disheartening challenges.

The first ever Equal Rights Amendment Caucus is dedicated to this cause, and as vice chair and co-lead of Representative PRESSLEY's resolution, I stand arm in arm with my colleagues as we bring this battle home.

I am going to say this. This charge is being led by Black women. Historically, we are the ones who take up the mantle of equality and fight to not only uphold our democracy but to move it forward.

Abolition, suffrage, civil rights—all of these movements supported Black women even though they were not always recognized for their leadership and courage. A glaring irony of gender discrimination.

I am going to say the names again. Mary Church Terrell, Shirley Chisholm, Pauli Murray, Nevada Senator Pat Spearman, and even our own JENNIFER MCCLELLAN. These activists have led fierce fights for gender equality to uplift Black women and women across the country.

In fact, Pauli Murray once said: "If anyone should ask a Negro woman in America what has been her greatest achievement, her honest answer would be, 'I survived.'"

We must recognize the work of these pioneers as we continue their fight today. The ERA would allow Congress, Federal agencies, and courts to address the needs of women as they relate to pay equity, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment and violence, abortion access, and LGBTQ protections because women are insulted, harassed, demeaned, demoted, and assaulted just for being women.

Enshrining these rights brings our Constitution into the 21st century. We might have been written out, but don't count us out. We will persevere until we can finally celebrate the addition of a 28th amendment to secure equal rights and a better and brighter future for our children and the women that we love.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I first acknowledge and thank our convener, the gentleman from Illinois. I thank the bold and brave women, our colleagues CORI BUSH and AYANNA PRESSLEY who have put together this convening as well. And I also thank all the women on whose shoulders we stand, particularly those who brought an intersectional perspective and urgency to the fight for all women throughout this country, but also adding on to that urgency, a reminder that it is Women's History Month in the year 2023, and yet we pretend to be surprised that a document written by rich, land-owning White men in the 18th century does not protect my rights.

We pretend to be surprised that a document that saw my Black ancestors as property until the 19th century legally does not yet empower people who look like me.

We are oh so surprised that a document that did not allow women the right to participate in our democracy

through voting, let alone the right to have land or a bank account until the 20th century is in need of an update.

Well, I am not surprised. Actually, I am pissed. I stand today as one of the vice chairs, the new vice chairs of the ERA Caucus to demand the obvious need for a constitutional amendment so that our future daughters and granddaughters, mine and yours, are not discussing what we failed to do in the 21st century.

Yes, I stand today frustrated that it is not obvious to all elected Members of Congress that the rights of all women, and specifically Black women, need to be protected. As we are wrapping Women's History Month, I remain steadfast in making sure that our daughters and granddaughters of the future do not have to continue to discuss this.

Constitutional equality is powerful. Women and the States have done their part to ratify the ERA, as we have heard, including our new colleague, who is joining us in the 118th, but now Congress must swiftly follow suit. We must take this action to move one step closer to enshrining the dignity, humanity, and equality of all people into the highest law of the land.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania, the Honorable Congresswoman SUMMER LEE, for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. MCCLELLAN).

Mrs. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JACKSON for convening this Special Order and Representatives CORI BUSH and AYANNA PRESSLEY for their leadership in creating the Congressional ERA Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the first Black woman to represent Virginia, the birthplace of American democracy and the birthplace of American slavery.

I rise as a former State legislator who led Virginia to become the 38th and final State necessary to ratify the equal rights amendment. It is poetic justice that Virginia was the final State necessary for ratification.

It has been a long march toward equality in Virginia's history. In 1619, when the first women were recruited to Jamestown, it was to make wives to the inhabitants, and their rights were surrendered to their husbands. They couldn't vote, they couldn't hold public office, they couldn't control their own property.

African-American women who arrived in 1619 were considered property and had fewer rights, if any at all.

In 1776, the Declaration of Independence established the principle that all men were created equal with inalienable rights. They didn't mean me.

When the Constitution was developed for we the people in order to form a more perfect Union, it didn't include me.

The Constitution purported to create a government by, of, and for the people, but not for me. Only for White men.

For the past centuries, we have made major progress to secure the blessings of liberty for every American.

We have made that progress thanks to the struggle and sacrifice of Black women who were in the fight from the beginning but were the last to benefit from our work. We were there in the fight to abolish slavery. As you heard, we were there in the fight for women's suffrage, even when we were told to march in the back.

□ 2030

We marched for civil rights in the 1960s, even though we weren't given a speaking role. We have fought, organized, and marched for ratification of the equal rights amendment for over a hundred years.

It is absurd that, a hundred years after the ERA's introduction, women still do not have the same constitutional rights as men.

That is why I am not only committed but honored to carry on this fight in Congress with my sisters in this fight, with Representatives Bush and Pressley in the Congressional ERA Caucus.

Women across our Nation have waited too long for equality. It is our time. Publish the ERA today so that, tomorrow, our daughters don't have to fight the same fight.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JENNIFER MCCLELLAN, our newest Member, for her remarks.

You heard from our distinguished colleagues about our topic on the ERA, all issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to avoid vulgarity in their remarks.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-636. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Control of Air Pollution from New Motor Vehicles: Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Standards; Correction [EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0055; FRL-7165-04-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU41) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-637. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Envi-

ronmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — New Source Performance Standards Review for Industrial Surface Coating of Plastic Parts for Business Machines [EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0200; FRL-8515-01-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV23) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-638. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Quality Redesignation for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Canton, Ohio; Stark County, Ohio [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0195; FRL-9631-01-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV66) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-639. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: Maine; 111(d)/129 Revised State Plan for Large Municipal Waste Combustors and State Plan for Small Municipal Waste Combustors [EPA-R01-OAR-2022-0515; FRL-10220-02-R1] received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-640. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Delay of Submittal Date for State Plans Required Under the Affordable Clean Energy Rule [EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355; FRL-10477-01-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV88) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-641. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bacteriophage active against *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *syringae*; Bacteriophage active against *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *corylina*; Bacteriophage active against *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *juglandis*; and Bacteriophage active against *Xanthomonas arboricola* pv. *pruni*; Exemptions from the Requirement of Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0519; FRL-10544-01-OCSPP] received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-642. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Modified Potato Acetolactate Synthase (StmALS) in Potato; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0237; 10775-01-OCSPP] received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-643. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — EPA Method 23-Determination of Polychlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins and Polychlorinated Dibenzofurans from Stationary Sources [EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0677; FRL-5937-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AT09) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-644. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Testing Provisions for Air Emission Sources [EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-

0556; FRL-8335-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV35) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-645. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's small entity compliance guide — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-02; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No. 1] received March 24, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-646. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2023-02; Item III; Docket No.: FAR-2023-0052; Sequence No. 1] received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-647. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Small Business Program Amendments [FAC 2023-02; FAR Case 2019-008; Item II; Docket No.: 2019-0008; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AN91) received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-648. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's summary presentation of final rules — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-02; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No. 1] received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-649. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Accelerated Payments Applicable to Contracts with Certain Small Business Concerns [FAC 2023-02; FAR Case 2020-007; Item I; Docket No.: FAR-2020-0007, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AO10) received February 21, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-650. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Steam Electric Power Generating Point Source Category-Initial Notification Date Extension [EPA-HQ-OW-2009-0819; FRL-8794-1-02-OW] (RIN: 2040-AG28) received March 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Ms. WILD, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H.R. 1801. A bill to enhance the consideration of human rights in arms exports; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee):

H.R. 1802. A bill to authorize the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, to enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, to prioritize natural disaster resilience, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. STEIL):

H.R. 1803. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to define the term natural cheese; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas:

H.R. 1804. A bill to designate certain airports as ports of entry and terminate the application of the user fee requirement under section 236 of the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984 with respect to the airport; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 1805. A bill to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on incentives under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic for the development of orphan drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HILL (for himself, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER):

H.R. 1806. A bill to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to modify the requirements associated with small business loan data collection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HUIZENGA (for himself, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. NICKEL):

H.R. 1807. A bill to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to promulgate rules with respect to the electronic delivery of certain required disclosures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. JACOBS (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 1808. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to prohibit discrimination in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 1809. A bill to require the development of strategies and options to prevent the export to Iran of certain technologies related to unmanned aircraft systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself, Mr. HILL, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas):

H.R. 1810. A bill to require the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to issue a rule before deleting or modifying certain small business loan data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 1811. A bill to expand the use of open textbooks in order to achieve savings for students and improve textbook price information; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 1812. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to reform the contribution system of the Universal Service Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 1813. A bill to direct the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide information on certain persons under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Prisons to the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 1814. A bill to provide grants for fire station construction through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself, Mr. STEIL, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 1815. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide assisted living services to eligible veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. MANN, Mr. LATTI, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. GROTHMAN):

H.R. 1816. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access at public institutions of higher education for religious groups; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mr. HILL):

H.R. 1817. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from requiring lenders to estimate a borrower's race or ethnicity via visual observation or surname; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Ms. FOXX, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. GROTHMAN, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BANKS, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. BURLISON, Mrs. HOCHIN, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. EZELL, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. HERN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MANN, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSEY, Mr.

ARRINGTON, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. GUEST, Ms. GRANGER, and Mr. BIGGS):

H.J. Res. 45. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WITTMAN:

H. Res. 255. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of March 27 through March 31, 2023, as "National Small Business Workplace Solutions Week"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi:

H. Res. 256. A resolution observing the 29th anniversary of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H. Res. 257. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a "Social Work Month" and a "World Social Work Day"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. SANCHEZ (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KILMER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. WALTZ):

H. Res. 258. A resolution expressing support for designation of a Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H. Res. 259. A resolution promoting youth mental health and well-being in a changing climate; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MEEKS:

H.R. 1801.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To enhance the consideration of human rights in arms exports.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 1802.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3; Article I, Section 8, Clause 18; and Article I, Section 9, Clause 7.

The single subject of this legislation is: Foreign affairs

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 1803.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is: Food processing

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas:

H.R. 1804.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To designate certain airports as ports of entry and terminate the application of the user fee requirement.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 1805.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all laws that shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Heath Care

By Mr. HILL:

H.R. 1806.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Small Lenders Exempt from New Data and Excessive Reporting Act

By Mr. HUIZENGA:

H.R. 1807.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution; The Congress shall have the Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Improving Disclosure for Investors Act directs the Securities and Exchange Commission to engage in rulemaking that would allow registered investment companies to satisfy their obligation to deliver regulatory documents to investors under the federal securities laws using electronic means.

By Ms. JACOBS:

H.R. 1808.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 10, United States Code, to prohibit discrimination in the Armed Forces.

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 1809.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Legislation to require the development of strategies and options to prevent the export to Iran of certain technologies related to unmanned aircraft systems, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 1810.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution: Congress shall have the power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to issue a before deleting or modifying certain small business loan data, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 1811.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Authorize a grant program to improve access to affordable textbooks.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 1812.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Require the Federal Communications Commission to reorm the contribution system to the Universal Service Fund.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 1813.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would require the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to provide information to the District of Columbia government on individuals convicted of felonies under D.C. law in BOP custody.

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 1814.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Fire services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 1815.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide assisted living services for eligible veterans, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 1816.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access at public institutions of higher education for religious groups.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 1817.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prohibits estimation of a borrower's race or ethnicity by visual observation or last name.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.J. Res. 45.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

Congressional Review Act 5 USC section 801-808

The single subject of this legislation is:

Disapproving the Executive Branch action to transfer student loan debt to the taxpayer.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 1: Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. BICE, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. LATURNER, and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 7: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. SELF.

H.R. 25: Mr. STRONG.

H.R. 32: Mr. CASAR, Mr. BABIN, and Ms. CROCKETT.

H.R. 41: Mr. FLOOD.

H.R. 49: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 51: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 53: Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 131: Ms. SCHOLTEN and Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 132: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 303: Mr. CASE and Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 314: Mr. SELF and Mr. HILL.

H.R. 396: Mrs. FOUSHEE and Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 448: Mr. TIMMONS and Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 471: Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. MANN, and Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 506: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 513: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 531: Mr. DUNCAN and Mr. BUCK.

H.R. 536: Mr. NICKEL.

H.R. 537: Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 549: Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. BERA, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. NICKEL.

H.R. 564: Mr. LATURNER.

H.R. 621: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 645: Mr. KILMER and Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 655: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 676: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 698: Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 734: Mr. BURLISON and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.R. 797: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 812: Mr. GOSAR.

H.R. 830: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. VASQUEZ, and Ms. CROCKETT.

H.R. 838: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 866: Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 955: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 984: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. FLOOD.

H.R. 1045: Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. TENNEY, and Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 1073: Mr. TORRES of New York.

H.R. 1105: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 1145: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 1154: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1230: Mr. FROST.

H.R. 1247: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1255: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. IVEY.

H.R. 1279: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 1288: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 1359: Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 1375: Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 1384: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 1385: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

H.R. 1394: Mr. ARRINGTON and Mr. ROY.

H.R. 1399: Mr. BRECHEEN.

H.R. 1404: Mrs. RAMIREZ and Ms. CHU.

H.R. 1447: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. DOGGETT, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 1465: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1469: Mr. DONALDS and Mr. GOSAR.

H.R. 1470: Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 1496: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 1514: Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 1564: Mr. SELF.

H.R. 1581: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. FULCHER, and Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 1584: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 1587: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 1588: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 1608: Mr. COMER, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mr. MANN.

H.R. 1613: Mr. MILLS.

H.R. 1624: Mr. SANTOS, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BEYER, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. TRONE, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. TORRES of New York, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.R. 1654: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 1708: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 1713: Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

H.R. 1716: Mr. GALLAGHER.

H.R. 1729: Ms. CHU and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 1742: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 1785: Mr. KUSTOFF and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 1793: Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 1795: Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.J. Res. 11: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DE REMER.
H.J. Res. 13: Mr. NICKEL.
H.J. Res. 29: Mr. ARRINGTON.
H.J. Res. 44: Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. SANTOS.
H. Res. 8: Mr. COLLINS.
H. Res. 69: Mr. SANTOS.
H. Res. 109: Mr. SANTOS.
H. Res. 133: Mr. TORRES of New York.
H. Res. 191: Mr. CÁRDENAS and Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H. Res. 219: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H. Res. 233: Mr. DUNN of Florida.
H. Res. 244: Mr. MURPHY.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. ARRINGTON

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Budget in H.R. 1 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES OF MISSOURI

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs

Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of Rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MRS. RODGERS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. THOMPSON OF PENNSYLVANIA

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Agriculture in H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.